

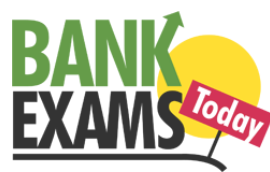
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GK Digest 2015

By Ramandeep Singh

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List of Prime Minister's Foreign visits

State Visit to Bhutan (June 15-16, 2014):

At the invitation of Shri Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, the King of Bhutan, Shri Narendra Modi paid a State Visit to Bhutan from 15-16 June 2014. The Prime Minister of India was accompanied by External Affairs Minister Smt. Sushma Swaraj, National Security Adviser Shri Ajit Doval, Foreign Secretary Smt. Sujatha Singh and other senior officials of the Government of India.

Visit to Brazil for 6th BRICS Summit (July 13-15, 2014):

In July 2014, Shri Narendra Modi visited Brazil for his first multilateral visit, the 6th BRICS summit was held at the north-eastern beach city of Fortaleza. In the Fortaleza summit the group have agreed to establish a financial institution rivaling the western dominated World Bank and IMF. The new bank would be called the New Development Bank (NDB). The Fortaleza Declaration was arrived at by the end of the summit.

Visit to Nepal (August 3-4, 2014):

Shri Narendra Modi paid an official visit to Nepal from August 3-4, 2014 at the invitation of the Prime Minister of Nepal, Shri Sushil Koirala. The Prime Minister of India was accompanied by Shri Ajit Doval, National Security Advisor (NSA), Ms. Sujatha Singh, Foreign Secretary and a delegation comprising senior officials of the Government of India and media.

Visit to Japan (Aug 30- Sep 3, 2014):

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi paid an official visit to Japan from 30 August to 03 September, 2014. During the visit, Prime Minister had an audience with the Emperor of Japan and held an Annual Summit meeting with Prime Minister Shri Shinzo Abe. The Tokyo Declaration for India – Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership was arrived at the end of the visit.

Visit to USA (Sept 26-30, 2014):

Shri Narendra Modi paid an official visit to USA. During the visit, Prime Minister spoke at the Madison Square Garden in New York. He also addressed the UN General Assembly. He met with various world leaders at the UN. He then proceeded to Washington to meet President Barrack Obama. A Vision Statement for the U.S.-India Strategic Partnership- 'Chalein Saath Saath: Forward Together We Go' was arrived at.

Visit to Myanmar (November 11-13, 2014):

Shri Narendra Modi paid an official visit to Myanmar to attend the 12th India-ASEAN Summit. He also spoke at the 9th East Asia Summit. The chairman made a statement at the end of 12th ASEAN-India Summit in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Visit to Australia (November 14-18, 2014):

Shri Narendra Modi paid an official visit to Australia in November, 2014. He attended G-20 and met the BRICS heads of states. He addressed a joint session of Australian Parliament and met with his Australian counterpart Shri Tony Abbott. A joint statement was issued at the end of the visit.

Visit to Fiji (November 19, 2014):

Shri Narendra Modi paid an official visit to Fiji where he met with the Prime Minister of Fiji Shri Voreqe (Frank) Bainimarama. A number of MoUs were signed between both the countries during this visit.

Visit to Nepal for 18th SAARC Summit (November 25-27, 2014):

Shri Narendra Modi made a second visit to Nepal as the PM to attend the 18th SAARC summit. The Kathmandu Declaration was made at the end of the 18th SAARC summit. There were a number of other outcomes of this visit.

Visit to Seychelles (March 10-11, 2015):

This was part of PM Modi's visit to three Indian Ocean Island countries. The PM reiterated India's foreign policy priorities in India's immediate and extended neighbourhood. He also said that India attaches paramount importance to strengthening relations with this region, which is vital for India's security and progress. Modi went on to say that India's relationship with Seychelles has been built on the foundation of mutual trust and shared values. His visit to Seychelles was the first Prime Ministerial visit to Seychelles since 1981. The PM's statement at the end of his visit outlined the outcomes.

Visit to Mauritius (March 11-12, 2015):

The PM visited Mauritius after Seychelles. He addressed the National Assembly of Mauritius. He also commissioned Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) Barracuda in Mauritius. A list of MoUs/agreements were signed during this visit.

Visit to Sri Lanka (March 13-14, 2015):

PM Modi during this visit to Sri Lanka said he was truly honoured by the warm welcome and friendship. He also attached a great significance to his visit since it is the first standalone bilateral visit to Sri Lanka by an Indian Prime Minister since 1987. The PM in his statement outlines India's commitment to ties with Sri Lanka and listed a host of areas where co-operation is being extended. He said that he looks forward to the early commencement of work on the ground in the Sampur Coal Power Project. This landmark project would meet Sri Lanka's energy needs. He also assured to provide a fresh Line of Credit of up to US\$ 318 million for the railways sector. This will be used to procure rolling stock, and to restore and upgrade existing railway track. The Foreign Secretary also briefed the media on PM's visit to Sri Lanka and its outcomes.

Visit to Singapore (March 29, 2015):

PM Modi was in Singapore to attend State Funeral of Singapore's founder and first Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew.

Visit to France (April 09-11, 2015):

PM Narendra Modi during his visit to France said he was really happy to come to France. As the Prime Minister, this was his first visit to Europe and started it with France. The PM said that France is one of India's closest friends and reliable partners.

Visit to Germany (April 12-14, 2015):

During PM Modi's visit to Germany, he said "Whenever anyone in India talks about technology, manufacturing or high quality, Germany is the first country that comes to the mind. So, it is natural that when India has embarked on a new journey for 'Make in India' for economic development and employment, we look forward to Germany's strong partnership."

Visit to Canada (April 14-17, 2015):

PM Modi during his visit to Canada said that few countries in the world can match Canada's potential to be a partner in India's economic transformation. He also sought Canada's cooperation and investment in every area of India's national development priority, - Energy and Infrastructure, Manufacturing and Skills, Smart Cities and agro-industry, and Research and Education.

Visit to China (May 14-16, 2015):

PM Modi said that he has lot of hope from the relationship that both him & the President of China are trying to build. During his visit to India in September 2014, Chinese investments worth 20 billion US Dollars (Rs. 12 lakh-crore) were committed. Modi also said that India is keen to develop the sectors where China is strong.

Visit to Mongolia (May 17-18, 2015):

PM Modi during his remarks in the Mongolian Parliament said he was delighted to visit Mongolia, a country of great people. He also said it is a special privilege to do so in the 25th year of democracy in Mongolia.

Visit to republic of korea (may 18-19, 2015):

During this visit, PM Modi said South Korea ranks only 14th in FDI flows in India and said there is a scope for improving this. He said India is also a land of enabling policy environment. He said there is potential for cooperation between India's software and Korea's hardware industry and also spoke about various other sectors where both the countries can work together.

Visit To Bangladesh (June 6-7, 2015):

During the visit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that India & Bangladesh are bound by the threads of history, religion, culture, language, kinship and passion for cricket. He also said that both countries share emotional bonds of shared struggles and sacrifices. He also said that India is pleased to extend line of credit of 2 billion U.S. dollars to support infrastructure and other development activities in Bangladesh.

Visit To Uzbekistan (July 6-7, 2015):

During this visit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that he has embarked on a five-nation tour of Central Asia and that it reflects India's resolve to start a new era in the relations with Central Asian Republics.

Visit To Kazakhstan (July 7-8, 2015):

During this visit, Prime Minister Modi congratulated the people of Kazakhstan on the occasion of 550th anniversary of the Kazakh Khanate and 20th anniversary of the Constitution of Kazakhstan. He also said that Kazakhstan was one of the first country with which India launched civil nuclear cooperation through a uranium purchase contract. He said India intends to expand cooperation in other minerals and Hydrocarbons.

Visit to Russia for BRICS Summit (July 8-10, 2015):

During his address in the plenary session of the 7th BRICS Summit, PM Modi said that everybody must acknowledge the success of BRICS in economic field including the New Development Bank, Contingency Reserve Fund, Export Credit Insurance, Financing for Innovation and new proposals for Customs Cooperation and Reinsurance Pool.

Visit To Turkmenistan (July 10-11, 2015):

During this visit, Prime Minister Modi said that the most significant initiative in the relationship is the TAPI Gas Pipeline and that this could transform regional economic cooperation and bring prosperity along the route.

Visit to Kyrgyz Republic (July 11-12, 2015):

During this visit, PM Modi said that he is delighted that both Election Commissions have signed an agreement on cooperation. He said that he looks forward to the launch of the tele-medicine link with India which is the first in the region. He also mentioned the establishment of India-Kyrgyz Centre for Information Technology in the Kyrgyz State University in Bishkek.

Visit to Tajikistan (July 12-13, 2015):

During this Visit, Prime Minister Modi said that Agriculture is important to both economies. Both nations have agreed to promote the International North South Transport Corridor. Other connectivity initiatives such as India's planned investment in Chahbahar Port in Iran and intention to join the Ashkabat agreement will help. Both countries also agreed to further strengthen defence cooperation which is a strong pillar of the strategic partnership.

Visit to UAE (August 16-17, 2015):

India is UAE's second largest trading partner; and UAE is not only India's third largest trading partner, but also India's gateway to the region and beyond.

MoUs signed between India and Korea

S.No.	Agreement/MoU	Remarks
1	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Korea for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income	India-Republic of Korea Double Taxation Avoidance Convention (signed 1985) has been revised with a view to avoiding the burden of double taxation on taxpayers in the two countries.
2	India-Republic of Korea Agreement on Cooperation in Audio-Visual Co-Production	The Agreement is being signed under the provisions of India-ROK CEPA; it would enable co-production of films, animation and broadcasting programmes. The Agreement would enable opportunities for collaboration between Indian and Korean film industries, and facilitate collaboration and exchange.
3	MOU for Cooperation between the National Security Council Secretariat of the Republic of India and the Office of National Security of the Republic of Korea	The MoU would formalize consultations between National Security Council structures of the two countries in a number of areas.
4	MOU between the Ministry of Power of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the Republic of Korea concerning Cooperation in the field of Electric Power Development and New Energy Industries	The MoU envisages cooperation in areas of electric power development and new energy industries such as renewable energy, smart grids and power information and technology, transmission and distribution of electric power, energy efficiency and storage system.

5	MOU between the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family of the Republic of Korea on Cooperation in Youth Matters	The MoU will strengthen and encourage cooperation on youth matters through participation in events and activities through exchanges, international conferences, seminars, youth camps, festivals etc.
6	Framework of Cooperation in the Field of Road Transport and Highways between the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of the Republic of Korea	To be signed under the provisions of India-ROK CEPA, the FOC envisages cooperation in areas including road policies, design and construction, road operation, road management and safety, intelligent transport systems and electronic toll collection systems
7	MOU between the Ministry of Shipping of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries of the Republic of Korea on Cooperation in the Fields of Maritime Transport and Logistics	The MoU envisages cooperation between the two countries in the fields of maritime transport and logistics including through sharing of technologies, information and experiences, the training of seafarers, exchange of experts and port operations etc

MoUs signed between India and France

S. No.	Area of Co-operation	Description of the Agreement
	Defence and Nuclear Energy	
1	MoU between L&T and AREVA	It is aimed at cost reduction by increasing localization, to improve the financial viability of Jaitapur project. It will also enable transfer of technology and development of indigenous nuclear energy industry in India.
2	Pre-engineering agreements between NPCIL and Areva	The PEA studies intend to bring clarity on all technical aspects of the plant so that all parties (AREVA, Alstom and NPCIL) can firm up their price and optimize all provisions for risks still included at this stage in the costs of the project.
	Space	

3.	MoU between ISRO and CNES on Megha Tropiques	The Indo-French Megha Tropiques satellite was launched on board the Indian launch vehicle, PSLV on October 12, 2011. The MoU shall extend by 2 more years, the joint project for sharing and use of data from the satellite.
4.	'MOU between ISRO, CNES and ONERA for Ka-band propagation experiment over Indian tropical region'	The MoU envisages cooperation for implementation of the project concerning Ka- band propagation experiment over Indian tropical region. The main objective is to collect Ka-Band attenuation data using available Ka-Band transmission and perform analysis along with corresponding radio meter and meteorological data.
5.	Programme between ISRO and French National Centre for Space Studies (CNES)	The Agreement proposes cooperation in the areas of Satellite Remote sensing, satellite communications and satellite meteorology; space sciences and planetary exploration; data collection and location; operations of satellite ground stations and spacecraft mission management; space research and applications. It covers the potential cooperation activities such as joint earth observation mission, hosted payload opportunities and Mars exploration.
	Sports	
6.	MoU on Cooperation between the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports of India and French Ministry of Sports, Youth Affairs, Public Education and Community Life	The MoU envisages cooperation and exchange of experiences in the fields of sports medicine, institutional cooperation, development of practice of sports in the context of proximity sports, support of participation of women and the disabled in sports, management and coordination of sports federations, training of executives and establishment of National Institute of Sports in India based on French model of INSEP.
	Economic Relations	
7.	Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the field of renewable energy between the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Government of India and the Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy, Government of France	The understanding reached in this MoU will help establish the basis for cooperation and relationship to encourage and promote technical bilateral cooperation on new and renewable energy issues on the basis of mutual benefits and reciprocity through exchange and training of technical personnel, exchange of information and data, joint research and transfer of know-how and technology. It would cover solar, wind, bio-energy, tidal and wave energy sectors.
	Railways	
8.	Railway protocol between Indian Ministry of Railways and French	The Protocol seeks to establish cooperation between Indian and French Railways for semi-high speed rail and station renovation.

	National Railways (SNCF)	
	Energy	
9.	Guarantee Agreement with AFD Financing of Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)	The Agreement seeks to finance Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)
	CULTURE, HERITAGE CONSERVATION, TOURISM, PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE CONTACTS	
10.	Administrative Arrangement in the field of Cultural Heritage	The Administrative Arrangement between the Indian Ministry of Culture and French Ministry of Culture and Communication, envisages cooperation in the field of cultural heritage, through training of Indian heritage conservation professionals at the Institute National du Patrimoine (INP), a higher education establishment of training for curators and restorers in the field of heritage in France, as well as Development of cultural and scientific cooperation in the fields of conservation and restoration of the heritage, short duration training sessions in India by INP trainers in Indian institutes and training of French training in India etc.
11.	Letter of Intent on Tourism	LoI for increasing cooperation in tourism sector signed between India and France aims to promote sustainable bilateral tourism between the two countries including through mutual promotion of tourism, ensuring safety of tourists and encouraging sharing of expertise and best practices. The LoI also seeks to facilitate twinning of sites having historical, natural and cultural significance in India and France for promoting them as tourist destinations.
12.	Letter of Intent (LoI) between the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and National Institute of Preventive Archaeological Research (INRAP)	The LoI envisages collaboration on preventive archaeology projects, initiatives to disseminate culture and promote archaeology, training programmes for specialists of ASI and deployment of expertise, in particular, in the field of underwater archaeology.
13.	MOU between School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi and National Architecture Institute in Paris, France	The MoU envisages cooperation to undertake joint planning and geographical studies in India and France and training of local counterparts in modern urban and regional research as well as in techniques of scientific methods in Urban and regional planning, geography, environment, Building engineering and management.

14.	MoU between Indian Heritage Cities Network Foundation (IHCN) and Association Nationale des Villes et Pays d'Art et d'Histoire et villes a secteurs sauvegardés et protégés ('ANVPAH')	This MoU envisages cooperation between to cooperate in the fields of sustainable development, urban planning, heritage conservation and up-gradation of basic services.
15	Proposal for twinning of historical monuments	Twinning of historical monuments is covered under the LoI on Tourism Cooperation.
16	VIE scheme to allow Indian students in France and French students in India to stay for a period of 24 months.	The Volontariat International en Entreprise (VIE) scheme offers Indian Visa for 12 months renewable once for a period of 12 months for 250 French students and a 'second residence permit' of 12 months for the Indian students in France following the 12 months already granted.
17	Letter of Intent on Ayurveda between Ministry of Ayush and University of Strasbourg	LoI allows both the parties to strengthen their relationships and cooperation in the area of Ayurveda education and research by undertaking academic and research activities, exploring feasibility of collaborative research, and drawing up strategies for dissemination of results of completed studies, Conducting joint workshops/conferences on Ayurveda as complimentary medicine in France
	Skill Development	
18	MoU between National Skill Development Agency (NSDA), India and the National Commission for Vocational Qualifications (Commission Nationale de la Certification Professionnelle – CNCD)	For exchange of information regarding the maintenance of National Skills Qualification Framework and the French National Register for Vocational Certifications (RNCP). The agreement will facilitate exchange of information and knowledge about maintenance of qualification registers through information exchanges, visits and other suitable meetings.
	Science and Technology	
19	MoU on cooperation in the field of Science & Technology between Department of Science & Technology of India and the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS)	The MoU is for cooperation between the two countries in the areas of applied mathematics, physics, Information & communication technology, water resources and environment, life sciences, astronomy, climate and energy by exchange of information, organization of meetings/workshops/seminars, exchange of research personnel; joint projects; establishment of Virtual Joint Laboratories, and establishment of Joint Research Centres.
20	MoU between Department of Biotechnology of India and CNRS and UPMC on	The proposed MoU seeks to establish a National Institute of Marine Biology and Biotechnology in India, with a Hub and Spoke network of laboratories spanning India's marine

Collaboration foreestablishment of a National Institute of Marine Biology and Biotechnology in India	regions from the Andaman to Lakshadweep.
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MoUs signed between India and Nepal

S.No	MoU/Agreement	Signatory from Govt of Nepal	Signatory from Govt. of India
1	MoU on Nepal Police Academy (NPA)	Mr. Suman Prasad Sharma, Secretary, Ministry of Finance	Ms. Snehlata Kumar Secretary (BM) Ministry of Home Affairs
2	Unveiling of Plaque for Nepal Police Academy		
3	MoU on Tourism	Mr. Suresh Man Shrestha, Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Tourism & Civil Aviation	Shri Ranjit Rae, Ambassador
4	MoU Traditional Medicines	Mr. Sant Bahadur Shrestha, Secretary, Ministry of Health	Shri Ranjit Rae, Ambassador
5	MoU on Youth Exchange	Mr. Dipendra Nath Sharma, Secretary, Ministry of Youth & Sports	Shri Ranjit Rae, Ambassador
6	Handing over of keys for Mobile Soil Testing Van by Shri Saroj Kumar Poddar, Chairman, Paradeep Phosphates Ltd to Mr. Jaya Mukunda Khanal, Secretary, Ministry of Agricultural Development, GoN		
7	LoC US\$ 1 billion Agreement	Mr. Madhu Kumar Marasini, Joint Secretary (Min. of Finance)	Mr. David Rasquinha Deputy Managing Director, Exim Bank
8	Motor Vehicle Agreement (MVA)	Bishnu Om Bade, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Physical Infrastructure & Transport	Mr. Niraj Verma, Joint Secretary Ministry of Road Transport & Highways

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9	MoU on PDA for ARUN III	Shri Radhesh Pant CEO Investment Board Nepal	Shri R.P. Singh, CMD Satlaj Jal vidyut Nigam
10	Twin City Agreement between Ayodhya-Janakpur	Mr. Purna Chandra Bhattarai Officiating Secretary, Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development	Ambassador
11	Twin City Agreement between Kathmandu-Varanasi	Mr. Dhan Bahadur Shrestha Executive Officer Kathmandu Metropolitan City	Ambassador
12	Twin City Agreement between Lumbini-Bodh Gaya	Mr. Durga Nath Gautam Executive Officer Lumbini Sanskritik Municipality	Ambassador

MoUs signed between India and Mauritius

S.No.	Agreement/MoU	Details/Scope	Signatory from India	Signatory from Mauritius
1	Memorandum of Understanding between India and Republic of Mauritius in the field of Ocean Economy	This MoU will provide an extensive framework for cooperation in the field of Ocean Economy, a novel and critical area of sustainable development in the Indian Ocean Region. It provides for mutually beneficial cooperation for exploration and capacity development in the field of marine resources, fisheries, green tourism, research and development of ocean technology, exchange of experts and other related activities	Mr. Navtej Sarna, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs	Mr. Sateaved Seebaluck, Secretary to the Cabinet
2	Programme for Cultural Cooperation between the Republic of India and the Republic of Mauritius for the year 2015-18	India and Mauritius share unique bonds based on our shared cultural heritage and traditions. This programme will provide for enhanced bilateral cooperation in	Mr. Navtej Sarna, Secretary (West), Ministry of	Mr. Sateaved Seebaluck, Secretary to the Cabinet

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S.No.	Agreement/MoU	Details/Scope	Signatory from India	Signatory from Mauritius
		this field for the term 2015-2018. The programme, <i>inter alia</i> , envisages exchange of cultural troupes, training in fine arts, organization of cultural exhibitions, preservation of cultural heritage, promotion of Indian languages, exchange of students, etc. This programme will also enhance greater people-to-people participation between the two countries	External Affairs	
3	Protocol between the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture of Republic of India and the Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security of Republic of Mauritius for the importation of fresh mango from India	The aim of this Protocol is to facilitate importation of fresh mango fruits from India by Mauritius so that our Mauritian brethren can also relish the flavor of the world-renowned Indian mangoes.	Mr. Navtej Sarna, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs	Mr. Sateaved Seebaluck, Secretary to the Cabinet
4	Memorandum of Understanding for the Improvement in Sea and Air Transportation Facilities at Agalega Island of Mauritius	This MoU provides for setting up and upgradation of infrastructure for improving sea and air connectivity at the Outer Island of Mauritius which will go a long way in ameliorating the condition of the inhabitants of this remote Island. These facilities will enhance the capabilities of the Mauritian Defence Forces in safeguarding their interests in the Outer Island.	Mr. Navtej Sarna, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs	Mr. Sateaved Seebaluck, Secretary to the Cabinet
5	MoU on Cooperation in the field of Traditional System of Medicine and Homeopathy	This MoU will promote cooperation in the field of traditional system of health and medicine between the two countries which already share these traditions due to our unique historical and cultural ties. It envisages exchange of experts, supply of traditional medicinal substances, joint research and development and recognition of the traditional systems of health and medicine in both countries. It also aims at promotion and popularization of the various	Mr. Navtej Sarna, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs	Mr. Sateaved Seebaluck, Secretary to the Cabinet

S.No.	Agreement/MoU	Details/Scope	Signatory from India	Signatory from Mauritius
		Indian traditional systems which fall under AYUSH.		

MoUs signed between India and Turkmenistan

1. Memorandum of Understanding on supply of Chemical Products between the Indian Public Sector Undertaking 'Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited' and the Turkmen State concern 'Turkmenhimiya.'
2. Memorandum of Understanding between the Foreign Service Institute of the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India and the Institute of International Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan.
3. Agreement between the Ministry of Youth Affairs and sports of the Republic Of India and the State Committee for sport of Turkmenistan on Cooperation in the field Of sports.
4. Programme of Cooperation in Science and Technology between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of Turkmenistan for the Period of 2015-2017.
5. Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of Turkmenistan on Cooperation in Yoga and Traditional Medicine.
6. Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of Turkmenistan on Cooperation in the field of Tourism.
7. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Turkmenistan on Cooperation in the field of Defence.
8. Indo-Turkmen Joint Statements.

MoUs signed between India and Bangladesh

- MoU signing between Bangladesh and Indian coastguards
- MoU on prevention of smuggling of fake currency notes
- MoU on Indian endowment on climate change for SAARC
- MoU on prevention of human trafficking
- MoU on cultural exchanges

MoUs signed between India and China

1. Protocol for establishment of consulates in Chengdu and Chennai
2. Cooperation in vocational education and skill development and setting up of Mahatma Gandhi institute on skill development in India
3. Consultative mechanism on cooperation in trade negotiations
4. Cooperation between Foreign Ministry and and Central Committee of Communist Party of China (CCCPC)
5. Action plan between national railway administration of China and Indian Railways
6. Memorandum of Understanding on education exchange programme
7. Cooperation in the fields of mining and minerals
8. Space cooperation outline
9. Safety regulations on importing Indian rapeseed meal
10. Broadcasting agreement between CCTV and Doordarshan
11. Agreement for cooperation in the field of tourism
12. Memorandum of Understanding on establishing India-China think tanks forum

13. Memorandum of Understanding between NITI Aayog and Development Research Centre
14. Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in earthquake science and engineering
15. Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in ocean sciences, climate change and cryosphere
16. Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in geo sciences
17. Memorandum of Understanding on establishment states/provincial leaders' forum
18. Cooperation between states and municipalities - establishment of India-China state leaders forum
19. Agreement on the establishment of sister states Sichuan and Karnataka
20. Agreement on the establishment of sister cities between Chennai and Chongqing
21. Agreement on the establishment of sister cities between Hyderabad and Gingdao
22. Agreement on the establishment of sister cities Aurangabad and Dunhuang
23. Memorandum of Understanding between ICCR and Fudan University for establishment of centre for Gandhian studies
24. Memorandum of Understanding for the establishment of Yoga college in Kunming

List of Countries - Their Capital, Currency and Official Language

List of countries with their capitals, currencies and official languages.

European Countries	Capital	Currency	Prime Minister
United Kingdom	London	Pound Sterling	David Cameron
France	Paris	Euro	Manuel Valls
Spain	Madrid	Euro	Mariano Rajoy
Portugal	Lisbon	Euro	Pedro Passos Coelho
Germany	Berlin	Euro	Angela Merkel
Italy	Rome	Euro	Matteo Renzi
Vatican City	Vatican	Euro	
Malta	Valletta	Euro	Joseph Muscat
Switzerland	Bern	Swiss Franc	
Belgium	Brussels	Euro	Charles Michel
Netherlands	Amsterdam	Euro	Mark Rutte
Denmark	Copenhagen	Krone	Lars Lokke Rasmussen
Norway	Oslo	Norwegian krone	Erna Solberg
Sweden	Stockholm	Krona	Stefan Lofven
Finland	Helsinki	Euro	Juha Sipila
Estonia	Tallinn	Euro	Taavi Roivas
Latvia	Riga	Euro	Laimdota Straujuma
Lithuania	Vilnius	Euro	Algirdas Butkevicius

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Belarus	Minsk	Belarusian ruble	Andrei Kobyakov
Ukraine	Kiev	Ukrainian hryvnia	Arseniy Yatsenyuk
Poland	Warsaw	Zloty	Ewa Kopacz
Czech Republic	Prague	Koruna	Bohuslav Sobotka
Austria	Vienna	Euro	Werner Faymann
Albania	Tirana	Lek	Edi Rama
Bosnia	Sarajevo	Convertible mark	Denis Zvizdic
Bulgaria	Sofia	Lev	Boyko Borissov
Croatia	Zagreb	Kuna	Zoran Milanovic
Macedonia	Skopje	Macedonian denar	Nikola Gruevski
Moldova	Chi in u	Moldovan leu	Valeriu Strelet
Romania	Bucharest	Romanian leu	Victor Ponta
Slovakia	Bratislava	Euro	Robert Fico
Slovenia	Ljubljana	Euro	Miro Cerar
Hungary	Budapest	Forint	Viktor Orban
Greece	Athens	Euro	Alexis Tsipras
Cyprus	Nicosia	Euro	
Ireland	Dublin	Euro / Pound Sterling	
Iceland	Reykjavík	Icelandic króna	Sigmundur Davio Gunnlaugasson
Luxembourg	Luxembourg	Euro	Xavier Bettel

North American Nations	Capital	Currency	Language	Prime Minister
Antigua and Barbuda	St. John's	East Caribbean dollar	English	Gaston Browne
The Bahamas	Nassau	Bahamian dollar	English	Perry Christie
Barbados	Bridgetown	Barbadian dollar	English	Freundel Stuart
Belize	Belmopan	Belize dollar	English	Dean Barrow
Canada	Ottawa	Canadian dollar	English, French	Stephen Harper
Costa Rica	San José	Costa Rican colón	Spanish	

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Cuba	Havana	Peso	Spanish	Raul Castro
Dominica	Roseau	East Caribbean dollar	English, French	Roosevelt Skerrit
Dominican Republic	Santo Domingo	Dominican Peso	Spanish	
El Salvador	San Salvador	United States dollar	Spanish	
Grenada	St. George's	East Caribbean dollar	English	Keith Mitchell
Guatemala	Guatemala City	Guatemalan quetzal	Spanish	
Haiti	Port-au-Prince	Haitian gourde	French Haitian Creole	Evans Paul
Honduras	Tegucigalpa	Honduran lempira	Spanish	
Jamaica	Kingston	Jamaican dollar	English	Portia Simpson-Miller
Mexico	Mexico City	Peso	Spanish	
Nicaragua	Managua	Nicaraguan córdoba	Spanish, English	
Panama	Panama City	Panamanian balboa, United States dollar	Spanish	
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Basseterre	East Caribbean dollar	English	Timothy Harris
Saint Lucia	Castries	East Caribbean dollar	English	Kenny Anthony
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Kingstown	East Caribbean dollar	English	Ralph Gonsalves
Trinidad and Tobago	Port of Spain	Trinidad and Tobago dollar	English	Keith Rowley
United States	Washington, D.C.	United States dollar	No Federal Language	
South American Nations	Capital	Currency	Language	
Argentina	Buenos Aires	Peso	Spanish	
Bolivia	La Paz	Boliviano	Spanish	
Brazil	Brasília	Real	Portuguese	Dilma Rouseff
Chile	Santiago	Peso	Spanish	
Colombia	Bogotá	Peso	Spanish	

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Ecuador	Quito	United States dollar	Spanish	
Guyana	Georgetown	Guyanese dollar	English	Moses Nagamootoo
Paraguay	Asunción	Guaraní	Spanish	
Peru	Lima	Nuevo sol	Spanish	Pedro Cateriano Bellido
Suriname	Paramaribo	Surinamese dollar	Dutch	
Uruguay	Montevideo	Uruguayan peso	Spanish	Jose Mujica
Venezuela	Caracas	Bolívar fuerte	Spanish	

African Nations	Capital	Currency	Official language(s)	Prime Minister
Algeria	Algiers	Algerian dinar	Arabic	Abdelmalek Sellal
Angola	Luanda	Kwanza	Portuguese	
Benin	Porto Novo	West African CFA franc	French	Lionel Zinsou
Botswana	Gaborone	Pula	English	
Burkina Faso	Ouagadougou	West African CFA franc	French	
Burundi	Bujumbura	Burundi franc	French	
Cameroon	Yaoundé	Central African CFA franc	French, English	Philemon Yang
Cape Verde	Praia	Cape Verdean escudo	Portuguese	Jose Maria Neves
Central African Republic	Bangui	Central African CFA franc	French	Mahamat Kamoun
Chad	N'Djamena	Central African CFA franc	French, Arabic	Kalzeubet Pahimi Deubet
Comoros	Moroni	Comorian franc	Arabic, French,	
Congo	Kinshasa	Congolese franc	French	Augustin Matata Ponyo
Djibouti	Djibouti	Djiboutian Franc	Arabic, French	Abdoulkader Kamil Mohamed
Egypt	Cairo	Egyptian Pound	Arabic	Sherif Ismail
Equatorial Guinea	Malabo	Central African CFA franc	Spanish, French, Portuguese	Vicente Ehatomi

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Eritrea	Asmara	Nakfa	Arabic, English	
Ethiopia	Addis Ababa	Ethiopian birr	Amharic	Hailemariam Desalegn
Gabon	Libreville	Central African CFA franc	French	Daniel Ona Ondo
Gambia	Banjul	Dalasi	English	
Ghana	Accra	Ghanaian cedi	English	
Guinea-Bissau	Bissau	West African CFA franc	Portuguese	Carlos Correia
Guinea	Conakry	Guinean franc	French	Mohamed Said Fofana
Ivory Coast	Yamoussoukro	West African CFA franc	French	
Kenya	Nairobi	Kenyan shilling	English	Uhuru Kenyatta
Lesotho	Maseru	Loti	English	Pakalitha Mosisili
Liberia	Monrovia	Liberian dollar	English	
Libya	Tripoli	Libyan dinar	Arabic	Abdullah al-Thani
Madagascar	Antananarivo	Malagasy Ariary	French	Jean Ravelonarivo
African Nations	Capital	Currency	Official language(s)	
Malawi	Lilongwe	Malawian kwacha	English	Hastings Banda
Mali	Bamako	West African CFA franc	French	Modibo Keita
Mauritania	Nouakchott	Mauritanian Ouguiya	Arabic	Yahya Ould Hademine
Mauritius	Port Louis	Mauritian rupee	English	Anerood Jugnauth
Morocco	Rabat	Moroccan dirham	Arabic	Abdelilah Benkirane
Mozambique	Maputo	Mozambican metical	Portuguese	Carlos Agostinho do Rosario
Namibia	Windhoek	Namibian dollar	English	Saara Kuugongelwa
Niger	Niamey	West African CFA franc	French	Brigi Rafini
Nigeria	Abuja	Nigerian naira	English	
Republic of Congo	Brazzaville	Central African CFA franc	French	
Rwanda	Kigali	Rwandan franc	French, English	Anastase Murrekezi
Senegal	Dakar	West African CFA franc	French	Mohammed Dionne
Seychelles	Victoria	Seychellois rupee	English, French	

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Sierra Leone	Freetown	Leone	English	
Somalia	Mogadishu	Somali shilling	Somali, Arabic	Omar Abdirashid Ali Sharmarke
South Africa	Cape Town, and Pretoria	South African rand	English	
South Sudan	Juba	South Sudanese pound	English	
Sudan	Khartoum	Sudanese pound	Arabic, English	
Swaziland	Lobamba	Lilangeni	English	Barnabas Sibusiso Dlamini
São Tomé and Príncipe	São Tomé	São Tomé and Príncipe Dobra	Portuguese	Patrice Trovoada
Tanzania	Dodoma	Tanzanian shilling	English	Mizengo Pinda
Togo	Lomé	West African CFA franc	French	Komi Selom Klassou
Tunisia	Tunis	Tunisian dinar	Arabic	Habib Essid
Uganda	Kampala	Ugandan shilling	English	Ruhakana Rugunda
Zambia	Lusaka	Zambian kwacha	English	
Zimbabwe	Harare	United States dollar and South African rand	English	
Oceania Nations	Capital	Currency	Language	Prime Minister
Australia	Canberra	Australian dollar	English	Malcolm Turnbull
Fiji	Suva	Fijian dollar	English	Frank Bainimarama
Kiribati	Tarawa	Kiribati dollar Australian dollar	English	
Marshall Islands	Majuro	United States dollar	English	
Micronesia	Palikir	United States dollar	English	
Nauru	No official Capital	Australian dollar	English	
New Zealand	Wellington	New Zealand dollar	English	John Key
Palau	Ngerulmud , Melekeok	United States dollar	English	
Papua New Guinea	Port Moresby	Kina	English	Peter O'Neill

Samoa	Apia	Tala	English	Tuilaepa Aiono Sailele Malielegaoi
Solomon Islands	Honiara	Solomon Islands dollar	English	Manasseh Sogavare
Tonga	Nuku'alofa	Pa anga	English	Akilisi Pohiva
Tuvalu	Funafuti	Tuvaluan dollar Australian dollar	English	Enele Sopoaga
Vanuatu	Port Vila	Vanuatu vatu	French, English	Sato Kilman

Popular Government Welfare Schemes

RMSA (Rastriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyaan)

Launched in 2009 with an objective to achieve enrollment ratio of 75%, in 2005 the enrollment was just 52.26%, for class IX-X within 5 years by providing a secondary school with reasonable distance of every habitation, target for 2017 is fixed at 100% retention at secondary level. It is a flagship programme for secondary education, In the budget 2014-15 the allocation for RMSA was Rs.4966 Crore.

RUSA (Rashtriya Ucchatar Shiksha Abhiyaan)

It was announced in 2007, but the financial architecture was only finalized in 2010, the main concern was over low enrolment ratio in higher education, under this 374 Model Degree colleges in educationally backward districts will be opened just to remove imbalances in unserved and undeserved area. The Present level of higher education is just 12.4% enrollment which has been targeted to 30% by 2020. For finances the ratio between centre and the state would be 75:25 and in special category state it would be 90:10. Under Budget 2014-15, Rs.2200 Crore have been allocated for RUSA in the last budget there were only Rs.400 Crore, and further proposed to set up 5 IIMs and 5 IITs.

SJSRY (Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana)

For the gainful employment to Urban Poor, Unemployed and under employed. It is provided to BPL, educated upto 9th class and maximum unit cost should be Rs.50000. SJSRY was launched in lieu of Nehru Rojgar Yojana and other schemes.

Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan Scheme (Total Sanitation Campaign)

During 12th five year plan Rs.36000 Crore have been allocated for Drinking Water and Sanitation, under this scheme Rs.10000 is provided for each household latrine in rural areas, Rs.3200 from centre, Rs.1400 from State govt. Rs.900 from home owner and Rs.4500 leverage from MGNREGS will be provided, India target is to eradicate Open Defecation from India by 2019. Rs.5 Lac award is given to Each Nirmal Gram Awardee. The Brand Ambassador of this is Vidya Balan. The new govt. target is by 2019 achieving "Swachh Bharat".

Nirmal Gram Puraskar Yojana

To encourage Panchayati Raj Institution to take up total sanitation campaign (TSC) an award of Rs.5 Lac is given to PRIs that attain a 100% open defecation free village, Sikkim has become the 1st Nirmal State of India, 2nd State is H.P.

NUHM (National Urban Health Mission)

Coverage of districts having above 50000 population. One ASHA for every 200-500 slums and urban poor households. 30-100 bedded health centre for 5 Lac population. One ANM for every 10000-

12000 population. Urban Primary Health Centres for every 50000, located with or near slums like settlement. 779 urban having more than 50000 populations will be covered by 2015 is the target.

Rashtriya Kishore Swasthya Karyakaram: National Adolescent Health Programme

It is nation's 1st comprehensive programme on adolescent, in this age group between 10 to 19 years are taken with the dimension on mental health, nutrition, substance misuse, gender based violence and non communicable diseases. 243 millions adolescents constitute 21% of the total population in India. The National Family Health Survey-3 indicates that 56% of girls and 30% of boys aged 15-19 years are anemic.

Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya's Teacher Training Programme

For preparing the Teaching staff of global standard Rs.500 Crore has been allocated for this programme in the Budget 2014-15.

Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao Yojana

Government has introduced a new scheme called Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao, which will help in generating awareness and improving the efficiency of delivery of welfare services meant for women with an initial corpus of Rs.100 Crore. The Union Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley announced in his maiden Budget speech that government would focus on campaigns to sensitize people of this country towards the concerns of the girl child and women. He said that the process of sensitization must begin early and therefore the school curriculum must have a separate chapter on gender mainstreaming.

Sharing the concerns of the members on Women's safety, the Finance Minister informed the House that Ministry of Road Transport and Highways will spend Rs.50 Crore on pilot testing a scheme for safety of women on public road transport. Similarly, Ministry of Home Affairs will spend Rs.150 Crore on a scheme to increase the safety of women in large cities. The Finance Minister also proposed to set up Crisis Management Centres in all the districts of NCT of Delhi this year in all government and private hospitals. The funding will be provided from the Nirbhaya Fund, the Minister added.

RSBY (Rastriya Swasthya Bima Yojana)

Launched in 2007 for BPL (a unit of 5 family members) in the unorganized sector, A smart card for cash less health insurance cover is provided, with the sum insured is Rs.30,000 per family and expenses bearing ratio of centre and state 75:25 in case of NE states it is 90:10.

Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV)

Under this scheme a provision of settings up residential schools at upper primary level for girls belonging to SC/ST and OBC and minority, it was implemented in EBB (Educationally Backward Blocks) where rural female literacy is below 30% and in select areas where female literacy is below national average KGBV is later on merged with SSA in 2007.

Rythu Ratnam

It is mobile van started by Andhra Pradesh to educate farmers; it is equipped with the latest technology mainly to provide information to farmers.

Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana

Rs.500 Crore were allocated for this yojana in the Budget 2014-15 for 24 x 7 days uninterrupted power supply to all homes, strengthening sub-transmission and distribution system and power will be supplied to all rural areas.

Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana (IGMSY)

Implemented thru ICDS (Integrated Child Development Services) Scheme, In IGMSY Rs.4000 is given in 3 installments from the 2nd trimester of pregnancy and until the child is 6 months old is available for above 19 years olds, ensuring proper nutrition for new born.

Awards and Honours in India – 2014

Awards and honours awarded in in India in the year 2014. It's very important for bank exams.

Award	Awardee
Ambassador of Goodwill Award	Saina Nehwal and M.S. Swaminathan
World Food Prize 2014	Sanjaya Rajaram (India born Mexican scientist)
Jnanpith Award (Highest Literary) 50 th Jnanpith Award 2013	Kedar Nath Singh (Hindi Poet)
49 th Jnanpith Award 2012	Mr.Ravuri Bharadwaja (Telugu)
48 th Jnanpith Award 2011	Ms.Pratibha Ray (1 st Oriya Woman writer)
47 th Jnanpith Award 2010	Chandrasekhar Kambara (Kanada writer)
Moorti Devi Award 2013	C.Radhakrishnana (Malayalam writer) for the Novel Theekkadai Katanhu Thirumadhuram
Moorti Devi Award 2012	Haraprasad Das for novel Vamsha
21 st Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana Award 2013	Ustad Amjad Ali Khan the Sarod Maestro, Mr.Khan is also the winner of Padam Vibhushan in 2001
Indian Car of the year 2014	Hyundai Grand i10
Indian Car of the year 2013	Renault Duster
Indian Motorcycle of the year 2014	Royal Enfield Continental GT
Indian Motorcycle of the year 2013	KTM Duke 200
Booker Prize 2013	Ms.Eleanor Catton
Booker Prize 2012	Ms.Hilary Mantel
Man Booker International 2013	Ms.Lydia Davis
Man Booker International 2011	Phillip Roth
UN Public Service Commission Award 2013	Cottage and Village Industry Department of MP for their initiation for Swaviamban and Grameen Haat
Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2013	Mr.Gulzar (original name Sampooran Singh Kalra)
Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2012	Mr.Pran
98 th Pulitzer Prize	for Public Washington Post and Guardian
Pulitzer Prize in Poetry Category	Vijay Seshadri
Templeton Prize 2014	Tomas Halik
Templeton Prize 2013	Archbishop Desmond Tutu
Templeton Prize 2012	Mr.Dalai Lama
23 rd Saraswati Samman (2013)	Govind Mishra (Hindu Author) for Dhool paudho par
22 nd Saraswati Samman (2012)	Ms.Sugatha Kumari for Poetry Collection "Manalezhuthu"
Vyas Samman 2013	Mr.Vishwanath Tripathi for Vyomkesh Darvesh a biography of noted Hindi scholar Acharya Hajari Prasad Dwivedi
Vyas samman 2012	Dr.Narender Kohli for Na Bhoota Na Bhavishyati (Hindi novel)
Kalidas Samman 2012	Anupam Kher
Kalidas Samman 2011	C.V. Chandrashekhar
Gandhi Peace Award 2013	Chandi Prasad Bhatt a pioneer of Chipko Movement and environmentalist
International Gandhi Award 2013	Dr.Vijay Kumar vinayak Dongre and prof. Guocheng Zhang
Rajeev Gandhi Khel Ratna 2013	Mr.Ronjon Sodhi (for shooting in Double Trap)

Awards and Honours in India 2015

Awards and Honours in India for the year 2015 :-

Miami Open 2015

Men's Single

Novak Djokovic(Serbia)

Women's Single

Serena Williams(USA)

Men's Double

American Bob Bryan (USA) and Mike Bryan (USA)

Women's Double

Sania Mirza (India) and Switzerland's Martina Hingis

French Open 2015

Men's Single

Stan Wawrinka (Switzerland),
Runner Up Novak Djokovic (Serbia)

Women's Single

Serena Williams (USA),
Runner Up Lucie Šafářová (Czech Republic)

Rome Master 2015

Men's Single

N. Djokovic

Women's Single

Maria Sharapova

Women's Double

Timea Babos and Kristina Mladenovic

Men's Double

P. Cuevas and D. Marrero

Olympics Games 2014 (winter)

Host City

Sochi (Russia)

Winner in Medal Telly

Russia

Venues

2016 Summer: Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)

2018 winter: Pyeongchang (South Korea)

2020 summer: Tokyo (Japan)

Wimbledon Open 2015

Men's Single

Novak Djokovic(Serbia)

Women's Single

Serena Williams(USA)

Men's Double

Jean Jullien Rojer of Netherlands and HoriaTecau of Romania

Women's Double

Sania Mirza (India) and Switzerland's Martina Hingis

Mixed Doubles

Leander Paes of India and Martina Hingis of Switzerland

Cricket World Cup 2015

Winner

Australia

Runners

Newzealand

up

Most Runs

Martin Guptill (New Zealand) 547 runs.

Man of the finals

James Faulkner (Australia)

Most wickets

Mitchell Starc (Australia) 22 wickets and Trent Boult (Newzealand) 22 wickets.

Man of the tournament

Mitchell Starc (Australia)

Final Match played at

Melbourne, Australia

IPL 2015

Winning Team,& Runner Up

Mumbai Indians

Runner Up Chennai Super Kings

Orange Cap

David Warner

Emerging Player

Shreyas Iyer

Most Number of Sixes

Chris Gayle

Highest Individual Score

AB De Villiers

Purple Cap

Dwayne Bravo

IIFA 2015 Winner

Best Actor

Shahid Kapoor for Haider

Best Actress

Kangna Ranaut for Queen

Best Director

Rajkumar Hirani for PK

Best Movie

Queen

62nd Nation Film Awards

Best Actor

Sanchari Vijay for Nanu Avanalla Avalu

Best Actress

Kangna Ranaut for Queen

Best Director

Srijit Mukherji

Best Feature Film in Hindi

Court

Best Feature Film

Queen

Dada Saheb Phalke Award

Shashi Kapoor

Nobel Prize Winners (2014)

Peace

Kailash Satyarthi

He is an Indian Children's Rights Activist. He has freed over 80,000 children from various forms of servitude and helped in successful re-integration, rehabilitation and education.

Malala Yousafzai

She is a Women's and Children's Rights Activist from Pakistan ,She was shot in the head by Taliban gunmen in 2012.She survived and has continued to speak out on the importance of education.

Physics

" for the invention of efficient blue light-emitting which has enabled bright and energy savings white light sources".

Shuji Nakamura

Hiroshi Amano

Isamu Akasaki

Chemistry

for the development of super-resolved fluorescence microscopy
William E. Moerner

Eric Betzig

Stefan Hell

Medicine

for discovering a **cells** that constitute a **positioning system** in the **brain**.
John O'Keefe

Discovered cells in the rat's brain region (hippocampus) that were active in certain places in the environment and proposed that these cells created inner map of surroundings.
Edvard Moser and May-Britt Moser

Together discovered "grid cells" that were activated when the rat was in the particular places. Grid cells together with cells discovered by O'Keefe build up an inner GPS system that helps with spatial navigation.

Literature

for the art of memory with which he has evoked the most ungraspable human destinies and uncovered the life-world of the occupation.
Patrick Modiano

Economics

for his analysis of market power and regulations
Jean Tirole

Bharat Ratna

HONOUR FOR VETERANS

WITH THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE COUNTRY'S HIGHEST CIVILIAN AWARD FOR A SWAYAMSEVAK AND A LATE FREEDOM FIGHTER, THE NDA GOVT. HAS SIGNALLED ITS NATIONALIST FOCUS



Madan Mohan Malaviya
Educationist, freedom fighter
1861 to 1946

- Established Banaras Hindu University in collaboration with Annie Besant in 1915
- Fought against social barriers, mobilised Dalits to demand entry in temples
- Began scouting organisations to serve pilgrims
- Practised as barrister in Allahabad HC
- As journalist, wrote on contemporary issues, Sanatana Dharma
- Launched Hindi edition of Hindustan Times
- Fought in Swadeshi 'Buy Indian' movement



Atal Bihari Vajpayee
Statesman, orator, poet
born 1924

- Political secretary to Bharatiya Jana Sangh founder Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee
- Parliamentarian for 47 years
- Pushed for full-scale diplomatic ties with Pak.
- Launched Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan to improve quality of education
- Pushed India's growth to record levels with economic reforms
- Called 'Bhishma Pitamah of Indian politics' by successor PM Manmohan Singh

TRIBUTE

“ Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya is remembered as a phenomenal scholar and freedom fighter who lit the spark of national consciousness among people... Atal ji means so much to everyone. A guide, inspiration and giant among giants...”

- PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI ON TWITTER

Ashoka Chakra Award



Major Mukund Varadarajan



Naik Neeraj Kumar Singh

Naik Neeraj Kumar and Major Mukund Varadarajan

Padma Awards 2014

The list consist of 9 Padma Vibhushan, 20 Padma Bhushan and 75 Padma Shri Awardees. 17 of the awardees are women and the list also includes 17 persons from the category of foreigners, NRIs, PIOs and 4 Posthumous awardees.

Padma Vibhushan

1. LK Advani- Public Affairs- Gujarat
2. Amitabh Bachchan- Art- Maharashtra
3. Prakash Singh Badal- Public Affairs- Punjab
4. Dr D Veerendra Heggade- Social Work- Karnataka
5. Mohammad Yusuf Khan alias Dilip Kumar- Art- Maharashtra
6. Jagadguru Ramanandacharya Swami Rambhadracharya- Others- Uttar Pradesh

7. Prof Malur Ramaswamy Srinivasan- Science and Engineering- Tamil Nadu
8. Kottayan K. Venugopal- Public Affairs- Delhi
9. Karim Al Hussaini Aga Khan (Foreigner)- Trade and Industry- France/UK

Padma Bhushan

1. Jahnu Barua- Art- Assam
2. Dr Vijay Bhatkar- Science and Engineering- Maharashtra
3. Shri Swapan Dasgupta- Literature and Education- Delhi
4. Swami Satyamitranand Giri- Others- Uttar Pradesh
5. N Gopaldaswami- Civil Service- Tamil Nadu
6. Dr Subhash C Kashyap- Public Affairs- Delhi
7. Dr (Pandit) Gokulotsavji Maharaj- Art- Madhya Pradesh
8. Dr Ambrish Mithal- Medicine - Delhi
9. Sudha Ragunathan- Art- Tamil Nadu
10. Shri Harish Salve- Public Affairs- Delhi
11. Dr Ashok Seth- Medicine- Delhi
12. Rajat Sharma- Literature and Education- Delhi
13. Satpal- Sports- Delhi
14. Shivakumara Swami- Others- Karnataka
15. Dr Kharag Singh Valdiya- Science and Engineering- Karnataka
16. Prof Manjul Bhargava (NRI/PIO)- Science and Engineering- USA
17. David Frawley (Vamadeva) (Foreigner)- Others- USA
18. Bill Gates (Foreigner)- Social Work- USA
19. Melinda Gates (Foreigner)- Social Work- USA
20. Saichiro Misumi (Foreigner)- Others- Japan

Padma Shri

1. Dr Manjula Anagani- Medicine- Telangana
2. S Arunan- Science and Engineering- Karnataka
3. Kanyakumari Avasarala- Art- Tamil Nadu
4. Dr Bettina Sharada Baumer- Literature and Education- Jammu and Kashmir
5. Naresh Bedi- Art- Delhi
6. Ashok Bhagat- Social Work- Jharkhand
7. Sanjay Leela Bhansali- Art- Maharashtra
8. Dr Lakshmi Nandan Bora- Literature and Education- Assam
9. Dr Gyan Chaturvedi- Literature and Education- Madhya Pradesh
10. Prof (Dr) Yogesh Kumar Chawla- Medicine- Chandigarh
11. Jayakumari Chikkala- Medicine- Delhi
12. Bibek Debroy- Literature and Education- Delhi
13. Dr Sarungbam Bimola Kumari Devi- Medicine- Manipur
14. Dr Ashok Gulati- Public Affairs- Delhi
15. Dr Randeep Guleria- Medicine- Delhi
16. Dr KP Haridas- Medicine- Kerala
17. Rahul Jain- Art- Delhi
18. Ravindra Jain- Art- Maharashtra
19. Dr Sunil Jogi- Literature and Education- Delhi
20. Prasoon Joshi- Art- Maharashtra
21. Dr Prafulla Kar- Art- Odisha
22. Saba Anjum- Sports- Chhattisgarh
23. Ushakiran Khan- Literature and Education- Bihar
24. Dr Rajesh Kotecha- Medicine- Rajasthan
25. Prof Alka Kriplani- Medicine Delhi
26. Dr Harsh Kumar- Medicine- Delhi
27. Narayana Purushothama Mallaya- Literature & Education- Kerala

28. Lambert Mascarenhas- Literature and Education- Goa
29. Dr Janak Palta McGilligan- Social Work- Madhya Pradesh
30. Veerendra Raj Mehta- Social Work- Delhi
31. Tarak Mehta- Art- Gujarat
32. Neil Herbert Nongkynrih (Art), Meghalaya
33. Chewang Norphel- Others- Jammu and Kashmir
34. TV Mohandas Pai- Trade and Industry- Karnataka
35. Dr Tejas Patel- Medicine- Gujarat
36. Jadav Molai Peyang- Others- Assam
37. Bimla Poddar- Others- Uttar Pradesh
38. Dr N Prabhakar- Science and Engg- Delhi
39. Dr Prahalada- Science and Engg- Maharashtra
40. Dr Narendra Prasad- Medicine- Bihar
41. Ram Bahadur Rai- Literature and Education- Delhi
42. Mithali Raj- Sports- Telangana
43. PV Rajaraman- Civil Service- Tamil Nadu
44. Prof JS Rajput- Literature and Education- Uttar Pradesh
45. Kota Srinivasa Rao- Art- Andhra Pradesh
46. Prof Bimal Roy- Literature and Education- West Bengal
47. Shekhar Sen- Art- Maharashtra
48. Gunvant Shah- Literature and Education- Gujarat
49. Brahmdev Sharma- Literature and Education- Delhi
50. Manu Sharma- Literature and Education- Uttar Pradesh
51. Prof Yog Raj Sharma- Medicine- Delhi
52. Vasant Shastri- Science and Engg- Karnataka
53. SK Shivkumar- Science and Engg- Karnataka
54. PV Sindhu- Sports- Telangana
55. Sardara Singh- Sports- Haryana
56. Arunima Sinha-Sports- Uttar Pradesh
57. Mahesh Raj Soni- Art- Rajasthan
58. Dr Nikhil Tandon- Medicine- Delhi
59. H Thegtse Rinpoche- Social Work- Arunachal Pradesh
60. Dr Hargovind Laxmishanker Trivedi- Medicine- Gujarat
61. Huang Baosheng- Others- China
62. Prof Jacques Blamont- Science and Engg- France
63. Late Syedna Mohammad Burhanuddin- Others- Maharashtra (Posthumous)
64. Jean-Claude Carriere- Literature and Education - France
65. Dr Nandrajan 'Raj' Chetty- Literature and Education- France
66. George L Hart- Others- USA
67. Jagat Guru Amrta Suryananda Maha Raja- Others- Portugal
68. Late Meetha Lal Mehta- Social Work- Rajasthan (Posthumous)
69. Tripti Mukherjee- Art- USA
70. Dr Dattatreyudu Nori- Medicine- USA
71. Dr Raghu Rama Pillarisetti (Medicine), USA
72. Dr Saumitra Rawat- Medicine- UK
73. Prof Annette Schmiedchen (Literature and Education), Germany
74. Late Pran Kumar Sharma alias Pran- Art- Delhi (Posthumous)
75. Late R Vasudevan- Civil Service- Tamil Nadu (Posthumous)

Many More ...

- Asian Banker Achievement Award 2015 - Bharatiya Mahila Bank
- Nishan-e-Pakistan (Pakistan's highest civilian Award) - Chinese president Xi Jinping
- Pulitzer prizes for West Africa Ebola coverage - New York Times
- Washington Film festival(Best Feature Film Award) - Margarita, with a Straw
- Whitley Awards for wildlife conservation - Ananda Kumar, Pramod Patil

- Commonwealth Short Story Prize for Asia region 2015 - Novelist Siddhartha Gigoo
- UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize 2015 – Mazen Darwish
- Man Booker International Prize 2015 - Laszlo Krasznahorkai (Hungarian writer)
- Sri Sri Ravi Shankar conferred with Columbia's highest civilian aw
- Sahitya Akademi Bhasha Samman 2015 - K Meenakshi Sundaram, Acharya Munishwar Jha, Charu Chandra Pande and Mathuradutt Mathpal
- 68th Cannes film festival (FIPRESCI Award) – Masaan(Indian Film)
- Golden Medal for Merit in Work of Spain - Tennis player Rafael Nadal
- RedInk Lifetime Achievement Award 2015 - Prannoy Roy
- World No Tobacco Day Award 2015 - SS Negi (Uttarakhand's Health Minister)
- Gandhi Peace Prize 2014 - Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- Bangladesh Liberation War Award- Atal Behari Vajpayee
- Space Pioneer Award – ISRO for Mangalyaan Mars Orbiter Mission
- Times of India Sports Awards(Sportsperson of the Year)- Jitu Rai
- 50th Jnanpith Award- Bhalchandra Nemade (awarded by MODI ,for several books(including Kosala and Hindu))
- Dadasaheb Phalke Film Foundation Award 2015 - Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan (Film: Happy New Year). Actor Rajkummar Rao won the prestigious award for his performance in the critically acclaimed film Citylights.
- Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Award 2015- Bollywood actor Anil Kapoor
- Dr. Pramod Patil and Dr. Ananda Kumar won 2015 Whitley Awards for wildlife conservation.
- International Achievement Award 2015 – Subadhra Devi Rai (an Indian origin nurse)
- Egypt's Academy of Arts – Amitabh Bachchan .
- Golden Peacock National Quality Award for the year 2015 - Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL).

Appointments

31 Dec. - A.K. Mittal appointed as Chairman of Railway Board on 31st December 2014 succeeded by Arunendra Kumar.

31 Dec. - On 31st December 2014, Animesh Chauhan appointed as MD and CEO of Oriental Bank of Commerce.

31 Dec. - On 31st December 2014, P. Srinivas appointed as MD and CEO of United Bank of India.

01 Jan. - On 01st January 2015, Kishore Kumar Sansi appointed as MD and CEO of Vijaya Bank.

02 Jan. - On 02nd January 2015, R.Koteeswaran appointed as MD and CEO of Indian Overseas Bank.

02 Jan. - On 02nd January 2015, J.Y. Pillay, Indian origin re-appointed as top advisor to President of Singapore Tony Tan. He became the Chairman of Presidential Council of Advisers.

02 Jan. - Kiran Bhai Vadodaria appointed as President of Indian Newspaper Society (INS) on 02nd January 2015 succeeded by Ravindra Kumar. The Headquarter of INS is in New Delhi.

05 Jan. - Arvind Pangariya appointed as the Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog on 05th January 2015.

05 Jan. - Sutirtha Bhattacharya appointed as CMD of Coal India Limited on 05th January 2015.

05 Jan. - 17 persons appointed as Brand Ambassadors of Swachh Bharat Campaign by the Government of India on 05th January 2015 in which the famous International Cricketer V.V.S. Laxman is one of the persons.

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06 Jan. - Keshari Nath Tripathi appointed as 19th Governor of Meghalaya on 06th January 2015.

07 Jan. - Atul Khare of India appointed as United Nations Under Secretary General, Department of Field Support on 07th January 2015 succeeded by Ameerah Haq.

10 Jan. - On 10th January 2015, Sindhushree Khullar appointed as the CEO of NITI Aayog.

11 Jan. - Kolinda Garbar-Kitarovic became President of Croatia on 11th January 2015. He belongs to Conservative Croatian Democratic Union Party.

12 Jan. - On 12th January 2015, Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha appointed as Chief Justice of Bangladesh succeeded by Md. Muzammel Hossain. He is first non-Muslim Chief Justice of Bangladesh.

12 Jan. - Alur Seelin Kiran Kumar appointed as Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation on 12th January 2015 succeeded by K. Radhakrishnan.

14 Jan. - Harishankar Brahma will become 19th Chief Election Commissioner of India on 14th January 2015. He became 2nd person of North-East to hold this post. The first one was James Michael Lyndogh.

14 Jan. - Anupam Shrivastava appointed as Chairman and Managing Director of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) on 14th January 2015.

14 Jan. - Alur Seelin Kiran Kumar sworn-in as Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on 14th January 2015. He became 8th Chairman of ISRO.

16 Jan. - On 16th January 2015, Baba Ramdev appointed as Brand Ambassador of State Government of Haryana to promote yoga and ayurveda in the State.

16 Jan. - Deep Kumar Upadhyay appointed as Nepal's ambassador to India on 16th January 2015. The Prime Minister of Nepal is Sushil Kumar Koirala.

17 Jan. - On 17th January 2015, Ajay Devgan, the famous Bollywood Actor appointed as SAARC HIV/AIDS Campaign Goodwill Ambassador.

19 Jan. - Pahlaj Nihalani appointed as Chairman of Central Board of Film Certification on 19th January 2015.

20 Jan. - On 20th January 2015, Michael Nobbs appointed as Coach of Indian Hockey Team.

22 Jan. - R.V. Easwar appointed as Interim Chairman of Delhi and Districts Cricket Association on 22nd January 2015 to attend executive committee.

25 Jan. - Divya Prakash Sinha appointed as Secretary in the Cabinet Secretariat on 25th January 2015.

27 Jan. - K. Durga Prasad appointed as Special DG of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) on 27th January 2015. CRPF was established in the year 1939.

28 Jan. - On 28th January 2015, Dr.S. Jaishankar appointed as Foreign Secretary succeeded by Sujatha Singh.

29 Jan. - Shekhar Sen appointed as Chairman of Sangeet Natak Adademi on 29th January 2015 succeeded by Leela Samson.

30 Jan. - Hanumanthu Purushotham appointed as Chairman and Managing Director of National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) on 30th January 2015. NRDC is the corporatoin to provide help to develop the technology at various national institutions.

30 Jan. - Paul van Ass appointed as Coach of National Men's Hockey Team on 30th January 2015 succeeded by Terry Walsh of Australia.

30 Jan. - Kanagasabapathy J. Sripavan became 44th Chief Justice of Sri Lanka and sworn-in on 30th January 2015 succeeded by Shirani Bandaranayake.

30 Jan. - Krishna Chaudhary appointed as Director General of Indo-Tibetan Border Police on 30th January 2015.

31 Jan. - T. Suvarna Raju appointed as Chairman of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) on 31st January 2015. He became 17th Chairman of HAL succeeded by R.K. Tyagi.

02 Feb. - On 02nd February 2015, Nandita Chatterjee appointed as Secretary of Housing and urban Poverty Alleviation Department of Union Ministry succeeded by Anita Agnihotri.

03 Feb. - On 03rd February 2015, Reserve Bank of India constituted a committee to evaluate applications for small finance banks and Usha Thorat become Head of this Committee.

03 Feb. - On 03rd February 2015, Reserve Bank of India constituted a committee to evaluate applications for payment banks and Dr.Nachiket Mor became Head of this Committee.

03 Feb. - Madhusudhan Prasad appointed as Secretary in Union Ministry of Urban Development on 03rd February 2015.

04 Feb. - On 04th February 2015, L.C. Goyal became Home Secretary after Anil Goswami sacked from the post.

04 Feb. - On 04th February 2015, Justice Madan Mohan Das (M.M. Das) appointed as Chairman of Commission of Inquiry probing Chit Fund Scam.

05 Feb. - MO Garg appointed as Director General of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research on 05th February 2015. The CSIR was established in the year 1942.

13 Feb. - Balasubramaniam Venkataramani appointed as MD and CEO of Multi Commodity Exchange on 13th February 2015.

16 Feb. - Putin Renjen appointed as CEO of Deloitte's Global Operations on 16th February 2015 succeeded by Barry Salzberg. He became first Indian origin to Head a Big-Four audit firm.

17 Feb. - Jawed Usmani became Chief Information Commissioner of Uttar Pradesh on 17th February 2015.

18 Feb. - Rashad Hussain appointed as Special Envoy for strategic Counter terrorism Communication in USA on 18th February 2015.

20 Feb. - Tapan Misra appointed as Chief of ISRO's Space Applications Centre on 20th February 2015.

24 Feb. - D.K. Pandey appointed as Director General of Police (DGP) of Jharkhand on 24th February 2015 succeeded by Rajeev Kumar.

26 Feb. - On 26th February 2015, Gopinath Pillai appointed as Special Envoy to Andhra Pradesh by Singapore to speed up construction of new capital in the State.

01 Mar. - On 01st March 2015, Arun Singh became India's Ambassador to the US.

02 Mar. - Jagmohan Dalmiya appointed as President of Board of Control of Cricket in India (BCCI) on 02nd March 2015 while Anurag Thakur appointed Secretary of BCCI.

02 Mar. - Baldev Sharma appointed as Chairman of National Book Trust on 02nd March 2015.

07 Mar. - Ashwin Mittal appointed as Chief Financial Officer of Walmart India Private Limited on 07th March 2015 succeeded by Jill Anderson.

14 Mar. - M.C. Mary Kom, the Indian woman Boxer appointed as Brand Ambassador of the North-East to showcase the potential of the region.

16 Mar. - Abid Ali Neemuchwala appointed as COO and Group President of Wipro Limited on 16th March 2015.

16 Mar. - Ashu Suyash appointed as MD and CEO of Credit Rating Information Services of India Limited (CRISIL) on 16th March 2015 succeeded by Roopa Kudva.

17 Mar. - Ramachandran appointed as vice-chair of the International Relations Commission of Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) on 17th March 2015. The President of ANOC is Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah.

18 Mar. - Kavinder Gupta, BJP MLA appointed as Speaker of 12th Legislative Assembly of the State of Jammu & Kashmir on 18th March 2015.

18 Mar. - Sohail Aman appointed as Chief of Pakistan Air Force on 18th March 2015. Air Force Day of Pakistan is observed on 07th September.

18 Mar. - Sir Venkatraman Ramakrishnan appointed President of Britain's Royal Society on 18th March 2015. He was awarded with Nobel Prize in Chemistry in the year 2009.

18 Mar. - Renu Khator, an Indian-American elected as Chairperson of Board of Director of American Council of Education on 18th March 2015.

24 Mar. - Ruth Porat appointed as Chief Financial Officer of Google Inc. on 24th March 2015 succeeded by Patrick Pichette. The CEO of Google Inc. is Larry Page.

24 Mar. - Vikramjit Singh Oberoi appointed as Managing Director EIH Limited on 24th March 2015.

25 Mar. - K.M. Mani, the Finance Minister of Kerala appointed as Chairman of Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers on Goods and Services Tax (GST) on 25th March 2015.

25 Mar. - Vikas Swarup appointed as Spokesman of Ministry of External Affairs on 25th March 2015.

30 March - Justice Sunil Kumar Sinha appointed as Chief Justice of Sikkim High Court on 30th March 2015 by the President Pranab Mukherjee.

01 April - Gulshan Rai appointed as India's first ever Cyber Security Chief on 01st April 2015.

01 April - Mayilsamy Annadurai appointed as Director of ISRO Satellite Centre, Bengaluru on 01st April 2015. He has been awarded with Team Excellence Award and Rajyotsava Award for Science.

04 April - Keshari Nath Tripathi became 16th Governor of Mizoram on 04th April 2015 succeeded by Aziz Qureshi.

06 April - Rajeev Shukla appointed as Chairman of Indian Premier League Governing Council on 06th April 2015 by Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

07 April - Sumit Mazumdar appointed as President of Confederation of Indian Industry for the year 2015-16 on 07th April 2015 succeeded by Ajay Shriram. While Shobana Kamineni became Vice-President of CII.

09 April - Bharat Hari Singhania became the President of JK Organization on 09th April 2015 succeeded by Gaur Hari Singhania who died on 04th April 2015.

09 April - Dr.Nasim Zaidi appointed as Chief Election Commissioner of India on 09th April 2015 succeeded by Harishankar Brahma. He became 20th Chief Election Commissioner of India.

10 April - Arun Kumar Jha appointed as Chief Executive Officer of Khadi and Village Industries Commission on 10th April 2015 by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT).

15 April - Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai sworn-in as 1st lady Judge of Sikkim High Court on 15th April 2015. The Governor of Sikkim is Srinivas Patil.

15 April - Dr.Mohan Kumar appointed as Ambassador of India to France on 15th April 2015 succeeded by Arun Kumar.

17 April - Vivek Priyadarshi appointed as Head of the team probing the Indian Premiere League (IPL) scandal on 17th April 2015 succeeded by B.B. Mishra. He appointed by Supreme Court of India.

19 April - Sitaram Yechury appointed as General Secretary of Communist Party of India (Marxist) (CPI(M)) on 19th April 2015 succeeded by Prakash Karat.

20 April - Neeraj Kumar appointed as Chief Advisor of Anti-Corruption and Security Unit of Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on 20th April 2015 succeeded by Ravi Sawant.

29 April - Mukesh Khanna appointed as Chairperson of Children's Film Society of India on 29th April 2015 as appointed by Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

01 May - Surender Singh appointed as Director General of Central Industrial Security Force on 01st May 2015 as appointed by Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.

07 May - Achal Kumar Jyoti appointed as Election Commissioner of India on 07th May 2015. He is the former Chief Secretary of Gujarat.

07 May - Arvind Saxena appointed as Member of Union Public Service Commission on 07th May 2015.

08 May - Navneet Rajan Wasan appointed as DG of Bureau of Police Research and Development. Earlier, he served as DG of National Investigation Agency.

11 May - Priti Patel, an Indian-origin appointed as Minister of State for Employment in Britain while David Cameron become Prime Minister of Britain.

11 May - Nikesh Arora, an Indian-origin appointed as President of SoftBank Corp. of Japan on 11th May 2015 succeeded by Masayoshi Son.

11 May - Kundapur Vaman Kamath appointed as 1st President of New Development Bank of BRICS nations on 11th May 2015. At present, he is Chairman of ICICI Bank Ltd.

11 May - K. Satish Reddy appointed as Chairman of National Safety Council on 11th May 2015 succeeded by Venu Srinivasan. The Headquarter of NSC is at Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra.

12 May - Deepak Iyer appointed as MD and Chief Executive Officer of Bharti AXA General Insurance on 12th May 2015 succeeded by Milind Chalisgaonkar.

12 May - V. Shanmuganathan appointed as Governor of Meghalaya, Draupaid Murmu appointed as Governor of Jharkhand, Tathagata Roy appointed as Governor of Tripura and J.P. Rakkhowa appointed as Governor of Arunachal Pradesh as announced on 12th May 2015.

18 May - Draupadi Murmu became 1st woman Governor of Jharkhand on 18th May 2015. She became 9th Governor of Jharkhand.

19 May - Ranjit Singh Baxi appointed as Head of Bureau of International Recycling on 19th May 2015. Its Headquarter is situated in Brussels, Belgium.

21 May - Akhil Amar, an Indian-American appointed as Member of National Council of Humanities of USA on 21st May 2015.

22 May - G. Mohan Kumar appointed as Defence Secretary on 22nd May 2015 as announced by Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).

24 May - Manoj Mishra appointed as Chairman and Managing Director of National Fertilizers Limited on 24th May 2015.

25 May - Sunil D'Souza appointed as Managing Director of Whirlpool India on 25th May 2015, the famous consumer durables firm in all over the World. Jeff M. Fettig is the CEO of Whirlpool Corporation and its Headquarter is in Michigan, USA.

26 May - Nirbhay Sharma became the Governor of Mizoram and sworn in on 26th May 2015. Earlier, Vakkom Purushohaman resigned from the post.

26 May - Trevor Bayliss appointed as Head Coach of England Cricket Team on 26th May 2015. He became 1st Australian who will Coach the England Cricket Team. He played during the period 1985 to 1997 for New South Wales.

28 May - V.A. Prasanth appointed as Chief Financial Officer of Indian Bank on 28th May 2015 succeeded by K. Srinivasa Raghavan. T.M. Bhasin is CEO of Indian Bank.

29 May - Veena Jain appointed as Director General of Doordarshan news on 29th May 2015 succeeded by Akshay Rout.

01 June - Philipose G. Pynumootil appointed as Assistant Chief of Naval Air Staff on 01st June 2015. He was awarded with Nao Sena Medal.

01 June - Meena Hemchandra appointed as Executive Director of Reserve Bank of India on 01st June 2015.

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01 June - Jyoti Prasad Rajkhowa appointed as Governor of Arunachal Pradesh on 01st June 2015. He became 19th Governor of the State.

01 June - Ameenah Gurib Fakim designated as President of Mauritius. She became 1st woman President of Mauritius on 01st June 2015. Prime Minister of Mauritius is Anerood Jugnauth.

01 June - Pawan Munjal appointed as CMD of Hero MotoCorp. Ltd. on 01st June 2015 succeeded by Brijmohan Lall Munjal. Hero MotoCorp. Ltd. is the largest manufacturer unit of two wheelers in India.

01 June - K. Sivan appointed as Director of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre on 01st June 2015. VSSC is an organization working under Indian Space Research Organisation.

01 June - S. Somanath appointed as Director of Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre on 01st June 2015. LPSC is an organization working under Indian space Research Organisation.

01 June - P. Kunhikrishnan appointed as Director of Satish Dhawan Space Centre on 01st June 2015 succeeded by MYS Prasad.

01 June - Putin Renjen appointed as CEO of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited on 01st June 2015 succeeded by Barry Salzberg. Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited is a UK based private company.

02 June - Ravi Shastri (full name Ravishankar Jayadritha Shastri) re-elected as Director of Cricket Team of India on 02nd June 2015 as announced by Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). Ravi Shastri is the former Captain of Indian Cricket Team.

03 June - Syed Asif Ibrahim appointed as PM's Special Envoy on Countering Terrorism and Extremism on 03rd June 2015. Syed Asif Ibrahim is the Director of Intelligence Bureau.

04 June - Vinita Bali appointed as Chairman of Board of Directors of Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) on 04th June 2015 succeeded by Nidoo.

05 June - R. Seshasayee appointed as Non-Executive Chairman of Infosys Limited on 05th June 2015 succeeded by K.V. Kamath.

06 June - Rahul Dravid, former Captain of Indian Cricket Team, appointed as Coach of India 'A', U-19 Cricket Team on 06th June 2015.

07 June - R.C. Tayal appointed as Director General of National Security Guard on 07th June 2015 succeeded by J.N. Choudhury. National Security Guard established in the year 1984 and working under Ministry of Home Affairs.

08 June - K.V. Chowdary appointed as Central Vigilance Commissioner by Government of India on 08th June 2015. He is former Chairman of Central Board of Direct Taxes.

08 June - Vijai Sharma appointed as Chief Information Commissioner on 08th June 2015 by Government of India. He is the former Environment Secretary.

09 June - Dr. Srivari Chandrasekhar appointed as Director of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)-Institute of Chemical Technology on 09th June 2015 While Narendra Modi is the President of CSIR.

09 June - M.K. Sharma appointed as Non-executive Chairman of ICICI Bank Ltd. on 09th June 2015 succeeded by K.V. Kamath. He is the former Vice Chairman of Hindustan Unilever Limited.

10 June - Prof. Sanghmitra Bandyopadhyay appointed as Director of Indian Statistical Institute on 10th June 2015 succeeded by Dr. Bimal K. Roy. She became 1st woman to lead the Institute.

15 June - Kapil Mishra appointed as Chairman of Delhi Jal Board on 15th June 2015 succeeded by Manish Sisodia, the Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi. Kapil Mishra is the Law Minister of the State Government of Delhi.

16 June - Narendra Kumar Yadav appointed as Chairman and Managing Director of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) on 16th June 2015 succeeded by P.K. Purwar. MTNL established in the year 1986 by the Government of India.

17 June - Sharad Pawar re-elected as President of Mumbai Cricket Association on 17th June 2015. He is renowned leader of Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) in Maharashtra.

17 June - Archana Ramasundaram appointed as Director of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) on 17th June 2015. NCRB was established in the year 1986 and having its Headquarter at New Delhi.

18 June - Aakar Patel appointed as Executive Director of Amnesty International India on 18th June 2015. He is famous Journalist and Writer.

18 June - Keith Vaz re-elected as Chairman of UK Parliament Committee namely Parliament of Home Affairs Select Committee on 18th June 2015. He is longest serving Indian origin Member of Parliament in Britain.

21 June - Debendranath Sarangi appointed as President of Squash Rackets Federation of India (SRFI) under the guidelines of Indian Olympic Association.

24 June - Steffi Graf of Germany appointed as Ayurveda Brand Ambassador for the State of Kerala on 24th June 2015. She was former World No.1 Tennis player and won 22 Grand Slam singles title.

24 June - Zaheer Abbas, the former Captain of Pakistan Cricket team, appointed as President of International Cricket Council on 24th June 2015 succeeded by Mustafa Kamal of Bangladesh While the Chairman of ICC is N. Srinivasan of India.

25 June - Anshula Kant appointed as Deputy Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer of State Bank of India on 25th June 2015 succeeded by P.K. Gupta.

25 June - Ujjwal Batria appointed as CEO of Lafarge India on 25th June 2015 succeeded by Martin Kriegner.

Jagmohan Yadav appointed as Director General of Police (DGP) of Uttar Pradesh on 30th June 2015 succeeded by A.K. Jain.

Anisa Rasouli nominated as 1st female judge of Supreme Court of Afghanistan on 30th June 2015. The Supreme Court of Afghanistan situated in Kabul city.

Chandrasekaran Ramakrishnan appointed as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Tata Motors Group on 01st July 2015. The Headquarter of Tata Motors Group is situated in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

U.P. Singh appointed as Interim Chairman and Managing Director of Oil India Limited on 01st July 2015 succeeded by S.K. Srivastava.

Kruti Tiwari appointed as Brand Ambassador of 'Digital India'. Recently, Digital India week launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 01st July 2015.

C.D. Balaji appointed as Director of Aeronautical Development Agency on 03rd July 2015 succeeded by P.S. Subramanyam.

Rahul Bhatnagar appointed as Managing Director (MD) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Bharti Enterprises on 08th July 2015.

Sriram Kalyanaraman appointed as Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of National Housing Bank on 08th July 2015. He became the 1st person from private sector to head a public sector financial institute.

S.N. Sahai appointed as Home Secretary of Delhi on 08th July 2015 succeeded by Dharam Pal.

Ashok K. Lahiri will become 1st Chairman of Bandhan Bank which will be open soon as announced by its Board of Directors on 09th July 2015 while Chandra Sekhar Ghosh will become MD and CEO of the bank.

Rodrigo Oreamuno appointed as Arbitrate by the Government of India for Vodafone tax case on 12th July 2015. He is famous Lawyer.

Lt. General Manmohan Singh Rai appointed as Vice-Chief of Indian Army on 13th July 2015 succeeded by Lt. Gen. Philip Campose while Lt. General Praveen Bakshi appointed as Army Commander.

Rakesh Sahni appointed as Chairman of Narmada Valley Development Authority on 14th July 2015. Its Headquarter is situated at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

Prashant Pathrabe appointed as Interim Director of Film and Television Institute of India on 17th July 2015 as approved by Minister of Information and Broadcasting.

Swati Maliwal appointed as Chairperson of Delhi Commission for Women on 20th July 2015 succeeded by Barkha Shukla.

Bhanu Pratap Sharma appointed as Chairperson of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on 20th July 2015.

Ananth Narayanan appointed as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Myntra on 21st July 2015 succeeded by Mukesh Bansal.

Ajay Mathur appointed as Director General of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) on 24th July 2015 succeeded by R.K. Pachauri.

Roelant Oltmans appointed as Chief Coach of Indian Hockey Team on 25th July 2015 replaced by Paul Van Ass removed recently.

Roland S. Folger appointed as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD) of Mercedes-Benz India on 03rd August 2015 succeeded by Eberhard Kern.

Justice Iqbal Ahmed Ansari appointed as acting Chief Justice of Patna High Court on 03rd August 2015 succeeded by Justice Lingala Narasimha Reddy as appointed by President Pranab Mukherjee.

Atul Keshap, an Indian-American appointed as Ambassador to Sri Lanka and Maldives on 06th August 2015.

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Ram Nath Kovind appointed as Governor of Bihar on 08th August 2015 succeeded by Keshri Nath Tripathi while Acharya Dev Vrat appointed as Governor of Himachal Pradesh succeeded by Kalyan Singh.

Pichai Sundararajan (Sundar Pichai) of India became CEO of Google Inc.

Sanjay Jalona appointed as MD and CEO of L&T Infotech on 11th August 2015. It is the 6th largest IT Company in India and incorporated in the year 1997.

Jayant Patel appointed as acting Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court on 12th August 2015 replaced with Justice V.M. Sahai.

Sudhakar Shetty appointed as President of Gymnastics Federation of India (GFI) on 12th August 2015.

Om Prakash Rawat appointed as Election Commissioner of India on 13th August 2015.

Ajit Kumar Seth appointed as Chairman of Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) on 14th August 2015.

Kishor Piraji Kharat appointed as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of IDBI Bank on 18th August 2015. IDBI Bank was established in the year 1964.

Sebastian Coe of Britain appointed as President of International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) on 19th August 2015.

Adille Sumariwalla became 1st Indian to be appointed as member of International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) on 19th August 2015.

Ashwani Lohani appointed as Chief of Air India on 20th August 2015.

Amitabh Mattoo appointed as Advisor to J&K Chief Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed on 21st August 2015. He is famous academician and former Vice-Chancellor of Jammu University.

Dilip Vengsarkar appointed as President of Association of Indian Statisticians and Scorers of India (ACSSI) on 21st August 2015.

Justice Madanlal Laxmandas Tahaliyani (M.L. Tahaliyani) appointed as Lokayukta of the State of Maharashtra on 24th August 2015 as appointed by Governor C. Vidyasagar Rao.

Vince Chhabria, an Indian-American appointed as full time federal judge by President Barack Obama on 24th August 2015.

Amol Palekar appointed as Chairman of India's Oscar Jury Film Federation of India on 24th August 2015.

Girish Sahni appointed as Director General of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) on 24th August 2015.

Ananth Padmanabhan appointed as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Harper Collins India on 25th August 2015.

Novak Djokovic of Serbia appointed as Goodwill Ambassador of United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on 26th August 2015.

Rajiv Mangla appointed as CTO of Snapdeal on 26th August 2015. Snapdeal was established in the year 2010. Kunal Bahl and Rohit Bansal are the founders of Snapdeal.

Kandakatla Manohar appointed as Director of Nizams Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS) on 27th August 2015.

Al Rajwani appointed as Managing Director of Gillette India on 29th August 2015.

List of Committees in India 2015

List of important Committees in India during 2014 and 2015.

1. **Ajay Shankar Committee** : To review functioning of PPP Cell
2. **Prof. NR Madhava Menon Panel** : Reported guidelines for regulating expenditure and content of advertisement in govt. ads
3. **H Devaraj Committee** : Reported most deemed university
4. **H R Khan Panel** : To evaluate unclaimed PPF and Post Office Savings
5. **V V Daga Committee** : To conduct forensic audit of NSEL
6. **Sivaramakrishnan committee** : Submit Report to build the capital city for Andhra Pradesh
7. **Ramanujam committee** : To avoid obsolete laws
8. **Bimal Jalan** : To head the Expenditure Management Commission
9. **Hari Gautam Committee** : To review the status of UGC
10. **Justice SB Sinha (One Member Commission)**:To Probe 2006 Meerut Fire Tragedy
11. **Suresh Prabhu Committee**: To review gas pricing formula
12. **R S Sharma Expert Committee** : To review the Company (Cost Records and Cost Audits) Rules 2014
13. **Justice MB Shah** : On Black Money
14. **Deepak Mohanty Committee** : Data and Information Management in the RBI
15. **Arvind Mayaram Committee** : To clear definition to the FDI and FII
16. **Nachiket Mor Committee** : To permit NBFC's to work as Business correspondence
17. **P J Nayak Committee** : Governance of Boards of Bank in India
18. **Bibek Debroy** : for Restructuring the railway
19. **Justice CS Dharmadhikari Committee**: recommended complete ban on dance bars in hotels and restaurants.
20. **Pratyush Sinha** : To assess compensation for coal blocks.
21. **Jairam Ramesh** : On sustainable development
22. **T.K. Vishwanathan committee**: To provide Bankruptcy code for small and medium enterprises (SMEs).
23. **K.V. Kamath panel**: to examine the financial architecture for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector.
24. **Gopalakrishna Committee**: on Capacity Building in Banks and non-Banks
25. **G N Bajpai Committee**: Guidelines for national pension system (NPS) schemes in private sector.
26. **Scientist Raghunath Anant Mashelkar panel**: To recommend best technologies for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "Swachh Bharat" national sanitation campaign.
27. **T S R Subramanian Committee**: To review five key green laws concerning protection and conservation of environment, forest, wildlife, water and air among others.

International Summits in 2015 List

Summits 2015

- G 20
- G 8
- BRICS
- SAARC
- ASEAN-EAS
- IBSA
- BIMSTEC
- NATO
- Nuclear Security

G 20 Summit

- Suresh Prabhu appointed as PM Narendra Modi's Sherpa (a senior official responsible for preparing the agenda for leaders to be considered during the summit.) for the Group of 20 annual Summit 2014.
- G20 Leaders Summit (2015) will be held in Antalya, (Turkey).
- G-20 meeting (2015) of Finance ministers and central bank governors will be held in Peru (Lima).
- G-20 Labour and Employment Ministerial meet will be held in Ankara (Turkey)
- 14th G-20 Summit 2015 – Australia
- 16th G-20 Summit 2016 – China

About G-20 Summit 2014

1. G-20 Summit 2014 was held in Brisbane, the capital city of Queensland, Australia lie on 15-16 Nov , 2014 .
2. It was focused on Economic concerns, highlights plans to increase trade and reduce poverty.
3. It should be noted that the G-20 membership comprises a mix of world's largest advanced and emerging economies representing about two-thirds of the world's population, 85% of global Gross Domestic Product and over 75% of global trade.
4. It's members are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, The United Kingdom, The United States and the European Union.
5. Raising the pitch on the Black Money issue, Mr. Modi in his intervention at the summit of the Group of 20, he called for close global co-ordination to address the challenge posed by it. The new standard would be instrumental in getting information relating to unaccounted money hoarded abroad and enable its eventual repatriation, Mr. Modi said, utilising the forum of G20, which accounts for 85% per cent of world's GDP.
6. Vladimir Putin's early exit from the G20 summit in Australia after an icy reception from world leaders may further stoke Russia-West tensions and lead to renewed fighting in Ukraine.

G 8 Summit

- It was the first time that the EU hosted a G7 summit.
- 40th G8(G7) summit held at Brussels which does not include Russia, because of the Crimean. These 7 leaders came together to figure out how to deal with Russia who had just exerted power to annex Crimea from Ukraine and how they are going to coerce or persuade Russia to stop Expanding.
- G-8 Countries: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, Britain and the US

BRICS Summit

- 7th BRICS Summit (2015) held in Ufa, Russia
- BRICS stands for Brazil, Russia, India, China and South-Africa
- Ufa is the capital city of the Republic of Bashkortostan, Russia, and the industrial, economic, scientific and cultural centre of the republic.

ASEAN-EAS Summit 2014

- The 25th ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations) summit was held in Nay Pyi Taw, capital of Myanmar on Nov 11-12, 2014 and the East Asia Summit was held at the same venue on November 13, 2014.

East Asia Summit

- The 9th East Asia Summit (EAS) was held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 13 Nov 2014.
- The Summit was chaired by Myanmar's President U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and attended by the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States, Australia, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, the Russian Federation and the United States of America.

IBSA Summit 2015

India host the summit of IBSA (India, Brazil, South Africa) in New Delhi in 2015.

SAARC

- The two-day 18th South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC) summit held at Kathmandu from 26th Nov to 27th Nov with an agenda to improve connectivity among member states for boosting trade, collectively fighting the poverty and illiteracy.
- The SAARC has eight members : Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri-Lanka with permanent headquarters at Kathmandu, Nepal.
- The eight members signed the SAARC Framework on Energy (Electricity) Co-operation to facilitate inter country trading of electricity.
- Theme : 'Deeper Regional Integration for Peace and Prosperity'
- New Chairman of SAARC : Mr. Sushil Koirala, Prime Minister of Nepal.
- The 19th SAARC summit will be held in 2016 in Islamabad, Pakistan.

Five Proposals by India at SAARC

1. SAARC Business traveler card for all member countries
2. Easy visa for medical treatment visits
3. Online courses and e library for South Asian students
4. To provide five - in - one vaccine for children and support for polio free all countries
5. To provide funds for TB-HIV laboratory

BIMSTEC Summit

- BIMSTECH (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multisectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation Countries)
- It has 8 members Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan, Nepal
- BIMSTECH Summit 2014 was held in Nay Pyi Taw (Myanmar)
- 4th BIMSTEC Summit will be held in Nepal.

NATO Summit

- North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) has 28 member with the purpose to safeguard the freedom and security of its members through political and military means.
- Head Office - Brussels, Belgium, Chief or Secretary General : Jens Stoltenberg
- It was the first NATO summit since Chicago in 2012,(Britain last hosted the summit in 1990, when Margaret Thatcher was Prime Minister)

Nuclear Summit 2014

- The Neitherland hosted the 3rd Nuclear Summit in the Hague with an aim of summit to reducing the amount of dangerous and improving the security for nuclear material and radio active source.
- The first Nuclear Summit was held in Washington.
- 4th Nuclear Summit 2016 will held in United States.

NAM Summit

- 16th NAM(Non-Aligned Movement) Summit 2012 was held in Tehran,Iran.
- It has 120+2 (Two nations namely Azerbaijan Republic and Fiji) members.
- 17th summit 2015 will be held in Caracas, Venezulea.

People in News During August 2015

1. **Amitabh Bachchan** accepted the proposal to be Maharashtra's Tiger Ambassador on 10 August, 2015.
2. **Tiju Thomas** an Indian diplomat with Indian Consulate in **Dubai** takes an initiative to provide blood to rare group accessible to those who are needy through a website **www.blooddonor.ae**. The initiative was launched on **World Blood Donor Day on 14 June, 2015**.
3. Three Indian Scientists namely - Kamal Bawa, Ajay Sood, John Kuriayn elected to **Royal Society of London on 30 April, 2015**.
4. After spending of **804 days on International Space Station (ISS)**, The **Russian Cosmonaut Geneddy Padalka** entered into **Guinness World Records in July 2015**.
5. Former Chinese Finance Minister **Jin Liqun** has been nominated for the post of **AIIB (Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank)** on **6 July, 2015**.
6. **Sir Fazle Hasan Abed** is selected for **World Food Prize 2015** on **1 July, 2015**.
7. **Anisa Rasouli** is nominated as **first ever female supreme court judge of Afghanistan** on **30 June, 2015**.
8. **Britain's longest serving Indian origin MP, Keith Vaz** on **18 June, 2015** was re-elected as Chairman of Parliaments Home Affairs Select Committee for the **third time**.
9. **Sabrina Corgatelli, The American woman** who recently ignited a firestorm of criticism from animal rights activist for flaunting online images of herself with the carcasses of a giraffe and other wildlife she killed during a guided hunt in **South Africa**.
10. **Les Munro, The New Zealander** who was the last surviving pilot from the specialized World War II "Dambuster" mission targeting German infrastructure died recently.

11. **Andrzej Duda** recently sworn in as the new **President of Poland**.
12. **Ram Nath Kovind** recently named as the new Governor of **Bihar**.
13. **Nicole Barr**, the teenager from UK who scored a maximum 162 in the intelligence quotient test set by **Mensa**. This score is two points higher than what **Albert Einstein** and **Stephen Hawking** are thought to have.
14. **Cilla Black**, the famous **UK singer** and **1960's** pop star championed by **The Beatles** who became one of the Britain's best loved television presenter **died recently in Spain**
15. **R S Sharma - The Secretary, Department of Electronics and Information Technology** who was recently appointed as **Chairman of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)**.
16. **Sanjiv Chaturvedi and Anshu Gupta** has recently chosen for the Ramon Magsaysay Award.
17. **Tom Moore - the "Archie"** cartoonist who brought to life the escapades of the freckled-face, red hair character died recently at **Texas**.
18. **Owen Chadwick - the scholar and priest** whose works explored the history of Christianity over two millennia passed away recently.
19. **Ajay Mathur** was recently appointed as new director of **The Energy and Resource Institute (TERI)**. Earlier he was the head of the government's Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE). He will replace environmentalist RK Pachauri, who is facing charges of sexually harassing a junior colleague.
20. **Suresh Narayanan** was recently appointed as the India head of Swiss food major company **Nestle** after the removal of Etienne Benet Amid the ongoing storm surrounding its popular easy-to-cook snack Maggi.
21. **Satoru Iwata - The Japanese** died recently he was owner of video game company Nintendo through years of growth with its Pokemon and Super Mario franchises.
22. **MS Vishwanathan, The Veteran South Indian** music composer passed away recently. He leaves a monumental legacy of reportedly over **1,500 songs** for Tamil, Malayalam, Telugu and Kannada cinema which are considered part of modern South Indian cultural identity.
23. **Amitabh Thakur, The Uttar Pradesh cadre IPS officer** who was recently suspended by state government after he brought his fight against Samajwadi Party Chief Mulayam Singh Yadav in the open.
24. **K C Chowdary** is recently appointed as the **Chief Vigilance Commissioner** by **Government of India**.
25. **Vijai Sharma** recently appointed as the Chief Information Commissioner.
26. **Sudhir Bhargava** recently appointed as Information Commissioner by Government of India.
27. **Jitender Singh Tomar**, The Delhi Law Minister who quit recently after being arrested for allegedly using fake degrees to enroll as advocate.
28. **Nek Chand** the creator of **Chandigarh's famous Rock Garden** died recently.

29. Sushma Swaraj - The external affairs minister who recently came into controversy over helping corruption charged former Indian Premier League (IPL) boss Lalit Modi to get emergency travel documents.

30. Professor Vikram Patel, on 16 April, 2015 appeared in 2015 Time 100 Most Influential people in the world list for his contribution in the field of mental well being.

31. Beno Zephine (Chennai's) on 12 June, 2015 became the first 100% blind officer in IFS. She is 25 years old.

32. Jyoti Prasad Rajkhwa was sworn in as **Governor of Arunachal Pradesh on 1 June, 2015** and became the **19th Governor** of the state.

Deaths

02 Jan. - V.R. Gowarikar, the former Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation, died on 02nd January 2015. He was also known as the 'Father of the Indian Monsoon Model'.

08 Jan. - Perin Romesh Chandra, the freedom fighter, died on 08th January 2015.

18 Jan. - Paladugu Venkata Rao, the former Minister of Andhra Pradesh, died on 18th January 2015.

23 Jan. - Mylavaram Surya Narayana, the famous Comedy Actor and Director of Telugu movies, died on 23rd January 2015.

26 Jan. - R.K. Laxman, the famous Cartoonist of India, died on 26th January 2015.

26 Jan. - Demis Roussos, the famous singer of Greece, died on 26th January 2015. He was 68 years old.

28 Jan. - Jaswant Singh Rajput, the famous Hockey Olympian, died on 28th January 2015.

29 Jan. - Subhash Ghising, President of Gorkha National Liberation Front, died on 29th January 2015. Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council was set up on his demand under Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council Act, 1988.

02 Feb. - Mrinalini Mukherjee, an Indian Sculptor and Artist, died on 02nd February 2015.

04 Feb. - Gaur Hari Singhanian, the Chairman of J.K. Group, died on 04th February 2015.

15 Feb. - Dr. Kalim Ahmed Ajiz, the famous Urdu Poet, died on 15th February 2015. He was Chairman of Urdu Advisory Committee in the State Government of Bihar.

16 Feb. - Raosaheb Ramrao Patil, the former Home Minister of Maharashtra, died on 16th February 2015. He was the leader of Nationalist Congress Party (NCP).

17 Feb. - Ashraf Haque, the Bollywood Actor, died on 17th February 2015. He played famous roles in movies like Delhi Belly and Fukrey etc.

18 Feb. - Daggubati Ramanaidu, the famous producer of India, died on 18th February 2015. He was awarded with Dada Saheb Phalke Award and Padma Bhushan Award.

20 Feb. - Govind Pansare, the leader of Communist Party of India (CPI), died on 20th February 2015.

23 Feb. - Rana Bhagwandas, the first Hindu Chief Justice of Supreme Court of Pakistan, died on 23rd February 2015.

26 Feb. - Hukam Singh, the former Chief Minister of Haryana, died on 26th February 2015. He was remained Chief Minister of Haryana in the year 1990-91 (total 248 days).

Ramsundar Das, former CM of Bihar died

06 Mar. - Ramsundar Das, the former Chief Minister of Bihar, died on 06th March 2015. He was remained Chief Minister of Bihar from 01st April 1979 to 17th February 1980.

G. Karthikeyan died on 07th March

07 Mar. - G. Karthikeyan, Kerala Legislative Assembly Speaker died on 07th March 2015.

Vinod Mehta died on 08th March

08 Mar. - Vinod Mehta, the famous Journalist, died on 08th March 2015. He was the founder of weekly magazine namely 'Outlook'.

Sadashivrao Dadoba Mandik died

10 Mar. - Sadashivrao Dadoba Mandik, the former Lok Sabha Member died on 10th March 2015. He was from Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and was the member from 15th Lok Sabha.

Sir Terence David John Pratchett died

12 Mar. - Sir Terence David John Pratchett, the famous Author, died on 12th March 2015. He had written more than 70 books which are translated in 37 languages.

Malcolm Fraser died

20 Mar. - Malcolm Fraser, the former Prime Minister of Australia, died on 20th March 2015. He was 22nd Prime Minister of Australia and lead to the Liberal Party during the period 1975 to 1983.

Shahir Krishnarao Sable died

20 Mar. - Shahir Krishnarao Sable, the Marathi folk artist, died on 20th March 2015. He was remained President of Akhil Bharatiya Marathi Natya Sammelan.

Lee Kuan Yew died on 23rd March 2015

23 Mar. - Lee Kuan Yew, known as the 'Founding Father of Singapore', died on 23rd March 2015. He became 1st Prime Minister of Singapore in the year 1959. At present, the Prime Minister of Singapore is Lee Hsien Loong.

Kailash Vajpeyi died on 01st April

01 April - Kailash Vajpeyi, the famous Hindi poet, died on 01st April 2015. He wrote most famous books like Sufinama, Sankrant, Dehant se Hatkar etc.

Malli Mastan Babu found dead

04 April - Malli Mastan Babu found dead in Andes Mountains, South America. He was an Indian Mountaineer. He became the fastest seven summiteer in all over the World i.e. 172 days in the year 2006.

08 April - D. Jayakanthan, the famous Tamil writer, died on 08th April 2015. He was awarded with Jnanpith Award and Sahitya Akademi Award.

Hrushikesh Moolgavkar died

09 April - Hrushikesh Moolgavkar, the former Air Chief Marshal of Indian Air Force, died on 09th April 2015.

Former Australia Cricket Captain died

10 April - Richie Benaud, the former Australia Cricket Captain, died on 10th April 2015. He became Australia's Test Captain in the year 1958.

Lt. General Hanut Singh died

11 April - 1971 War Hero Lt. General Hanut Singh, died on 11th April 2015. He was awarded with Mahavir Chakra. He was the founder of Shivbala Yogi Ashram Parisar in Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

Gunter Grass died on 13th April 2015

13 April - Gunter Grass, the famous German Novelist, died on 13th April 2015. He became famous for his Novel 'The Tin Drum' published in the year 1959. He also served in German military during the World War-II.

Former Prime Minister of Nepal died

15 April - Surya Bahadur Thapa, the former Prime Minister of Nepal died on 15th April 2015. He was remained Prime Minister of Nepal for five times.

Former Prime Minister of Czech Republic, died

16 April - Stanislav Gross, the former Prime Minister of Czech Republic, died on 16th April 2015. He was the youngest Prime Minister of Czech Republic while became at the age of 34.

Janaki Ballabh Patnaik died on 21st April 2015

21 April - Janaki Ballabh Patnaik, former Chief Minister of Odisha, died on 21st April 2015. He was also remained the Governor of Assam during the period from 2009 to 2014.

Andrew Lesnie died on 27th April 2015

27 April - Andrew Lesnie, the Oscar winner Cinematographer, died on 27th April 2015. He won Oscar Award in the year 2002.

29 April - Bimba Modak, the famous Marathi actress, died on 29th April 2015. She made her debut in the film namely 'Chul Aani Mul', the film directed by Vishram Bedekar in the year 1946.

Barjorji Pardiwala died

30 April - Barjorji Pardiwala, the former Speake Gujarat Legislative Assembly, died on 30th April 2015. He was the father of Gujarat High Court Justice J.B. Pardiwala.

Amitabha Chowdhury died

01 May - Amitabha Chowdhury, the famous journalist and writer, died on 01st May 2015, He was awarded with Padma Shree Award in the year 1983.

Michael Blake died

03 May - Michael Blake, the Oscar winning Author died on 03rd May 2015. He wrote many famous novels in which 'The Holy Road' is one of them.

Baleshwar Ram died

03 May - Baleshwar Ram, the former Union Minister of India, died on 03rd May 2015. He was the Member of Parliament of 7th Lok Sabha from Rosera, Samastipur, Bihar.

Lu Ping died

03 May - Lu Ping, the famous diplomat of China, died on 03rd May 2015. He was helped to drafting the Mini Constitution of Hong Kong.

Oscar Holderer died

05 May - Oscar Holderer, the moon rocket expert of USA, died on 05th May 2015. He brought technology used in V2 rocket and also played the beneficial role in Saturn V rocket used in Moon landing.

Chris Burden died

10 May - Chris Burden, the famous POP Artist of USA, died on 10th May 2015. He became famous for his work namely 'Shoot' in the year 1971. His famous works were 'Trans-fixed' and 'For Through the Night Softly' etc.

Peter Gay died

12 May - Peter Gay, the famous historian on European thought, died on 12th May 2015. He is known for books Enlightenment etc.

12 May - Suchitra Bhattacharya, the famous Writer of West Bengal, died on 12th May 2015. Her famous Novels are Dahana, Kachher Dewal etc.

Sudha Shivpuri died

20 May - Sudha Shivpuri, the famous actress, died on 20th May 2015. She became popular from her role as 'Baa' in t.v. show Kyuki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bhau Thi'.

Mrinal Datta Chaudhuri died

20 May - Mrinal Datta Chaudhuri, the famous economist, died on 20th May 2015. He was the Policy Advisor in UPA Government.

Bob Belden died

20 May - Bob Belden, famous jazz musician, died on 20th May 2015. He was awarded with three time Grammy Awards.

Terry Sue Patt died

22 May - Terry Sue Patt, famous Actor of Britain, died on 22nd May 2015. He became popular for playing the role in TV serial namely 'Grange Hill'.

John Forbes Nash Jr. died

23 May - John Forbes Nash Jr., Nobel Awardee Mathematician, died on 23rd May 2015. He won Abel Prize in the year 2015, Leroy P. Steele prize in the year 1999, John Von Neumann Theory Prize in the year 1978.

Cristian Gomez died

24 May - Cristian Gomez, the Football player of Argentina, died on 24th May 2015. Earlier Emanuel Ortega of Argentina also died after suffered a head injury.

Doris Hart died

29 May - Doris Hart, the winner of three Wimbledon titles in a day, died on 29th May 2015. She was retired from Tennis in the year 1955. Moreover, she was inducted into International Tennis Hall of Fame also in the year 1969.

Prem Nath died

01 June - Prem Nath, the famous Wrestler and Gold Medal winner in Commonwealth Games in the year 1974, died on 01st June 2015. He took over an akhara known as Guru Prem Nath Akhara.

Irwin Rose died

02 June - Irwin Rose, the Nobel Prize winner, died on 02nd June 2015. He won Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

Sir Christopher Lee died

07 June - Sir Christopher Lee, the famous Actor of Britain, died on 07th June 2015. He became famous with the character namely 'Dracula'. He performed in over 250 films.

Dasaradhi Rangacharya died

08 June - Dasaradhi Rangacharya, the famous Telugu writer, died on 08th June 2015. He received Central Sahitya Academy Award.

Hemant Kantikar died

09 June - Hemant Kantikar, the former Cricketer of India, died on 09th June 2015. He scored 5006 runs with 13 centuries and 23 half centuries.

Nek Chand Saini died

12 June - Nek Chand Saini, the creator of Rock Garden, Chandigarh, died on 12th June 2015. He was awarded with Padma Shri in the year 1984.

Sheila Kaul died

13 June - Sheila Kaul, the former Union Minister, died on 13th June 2015. She was the former Governor of the State of Himachal Pradesh.

Charles Correa died

16 June - Charles Correa, the greatest architect of India, died on 16th June 2015. He was the architect of Navi Mumbai satellite suburb. In the year 1984, he founded Urban Design Research Institute located in Mumbai. He was also awarded with Padma Shri in the year 1972 and after that Padma Vibhushan in the year 2006.

Suleyman Damirel died

17 June - Suleyman Damirel, the former President of Turkey, died on 17th June 2015. He remained President of Turkey during the period 1993 to 2000.

Shashi Bala died

21 June - Shashi Bala, the former Captain of Indian Hockey team, died on 21st June 2015. She also remained selector of Hockey Punjab.

Sister Nirmala Joshi died

22 June - Sister Nirmala Joshi, the former Head of Missionaries of Charity, died on 22nd June 2015. She became Head of Missionaries of Charity after Mother Teresa. Mother Teresa was died in the year 1997 earlier.

Praful Bidwai died

23 June - Praful Bidwai, the famous Journalist, died on 23rd June 2015. He wrote famous books namely 'South Asia on a Short Fuse: Nuclear Politics and the Future of Global Disarmament', 'New Nukes: India, Pakistan and Global Nuclear Disarmament etc.

25 June - Patrick Macnee, the star of 'The Avengers', died on 25th June 2015. He became famous for his role in the T.V. serial 'The Avengers'.

Y.K. Sabharwal, the former Chief Justice of India, died on 03rd July 2015. He became Chief Justice of Bombay High Court in the year 1999.

03 July - Diana Douglas died

Diana Douglas, the famous Hollywood Actress, died on 03rd July 2015. His famous movies and TV shows are 'It Runs in the Family', 'The Indian Fighter' etc.

04 July - Abdullah Hussain died

Abdullah Hussain, the famous Novelist of Pakistan, died on 04th July 2015. He wrote the famous novel namely 'Udas Naslain'.

09 July - Bashir Navaaz died

Bashir Navaaz, the famous poet of Urdu language, died on 09th July 2015. He was also known as 'Indo-Pak Shayar'. He was awarded with Galib Award, Pulotsav Samman etc.

09 July - Saud al-Faisal died

The Prince of Saudi Arabia Saud al-Faisal, died on 09th July 2015. He was the longest serving Foreign Minister of Saudi Arabia.

13 July - Pashupatinath Roy died

Pashupatinath Roy, the former President of Billiards and Snooker Federation of India (BSFI), died on 13th July 2015. He was also remained the President of West Bengal Badminton Association.

Manayagath Subramanian Viswanathan, the famous Tamil music composer, died on 14th July 2015.

14 July - Olaf Pooley died

Olaf Pooley, the famous Hollywood actor, died on 14th July 2015. He was famous for role in Doctor Who Show during the 1970s.

15 July - V. Ramakrishna died

V. Ramakrishna, the famous Telugu playback Singer, died on 15th July 2015. He was famous for signing memorable songs for N.T. Rama Rao.

25 July - Ramkrishna Suryabhan Gavai died

Ramkrishna Suryabhan Gavai, the former Governor of Bihar, died on 25th July 2015. He became Member of Parliament from Amravati in the year 1998.

26 July - Bijoy Krishna Handique died

Bijoy Krishna Handique, the former Congress leader died on 26th July 2015. He became Member of Parliament from Jorhat, Assam in the year 1991.

27 July - A.P.J. Abdul Kalam died

A.P.J. Abdul Kalam (Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam), the former President of India, died on 27th July 2015. He was 11th President of India and also known as 'Missile Man of India'. He was awarded with Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan and Bharat Ratna awards. He also wrote the famous book titled as 'India 2020'.

03 Aug - Jagannath Singh died

Jagannath Singh, the former Minister and Senior BJP leader from Madhya Pradesh, died on 03rd August 2015. He remained Labour Minister for the State of Madhya Pradesh.

04 Aug - Colonel Harwant Singh (retd.) died

Colonel Harwant Singh (retd.), died on 04th August 2015. He was officer-in-charge of flag hosting ceremony of 1st Independence Day of India. He was awarded with 'Military Cross' in the year 1944. 'Military Cross' was the highest award of the British Army.

09 Aug - Kayyara Kinhanna Rai died

Kayyara Kinhanna Rai, the freedom fighter, died on 09th August 2015. He was famous author, poet and journalist. He was awarded with Karnataka Sahitya Academy Puraskar in the year 1969 and Karnataka Ekikarana (Unification) Award in the year 2007.

13 Aug - Om Prakash Munjal died

Om Prakash Munjal, the founder of Hero Cycles, died on 13th August 2015. He also known as 'Cycle Man' of India.

18 Aug - Suvra Mukherjee died

Suvra Mukherjee, the wife of President of India Pranab Mukherjee, died on 18th August 2015. She also known as 'India's First Lady'. She had founded 'Geetanjali Troup'.

21 Aug - N.R. Varhadpande died

N.R. Varhadpande, the famous Sanskrit scholar, died on 21st August 2015. He became famous from the book titled as 'Aryan Invasion: A Myth'. He was also remained the President of Sanskrit Bhasha Pracharini Sabha.

22 Aug - Arthur Robert Morris died

Arthur Robert Morris, the former famous Cricketer of Australia, died on 22nd August 2015.

30 Aug - M.M. Kalburgi died

M.M. Kalburgi, the famous Kannada writer and Sahitya Academy awardee, died on 30th August 2015. He also awarded with Nrupatunga Award and Pampa Award etc.

International Military Training Exercises

Important international military training exercises held in during past few months.

Name	Countries involved and explanations
AJAI	Indian Army Exercise
Alma Halfa	This is a joint military exercise with Australia and USA hosted by New Zealand Defence Force.
CARAT	Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training organized annually. Total 9 countries participated in this event. The nine countries are United States and Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Phillipines, Thailand and Timor Leste.
Cobra Gold	It is the largest and multiservice exercise in South-East Asia, It held annually in Thailand.
Exercise Dawn Blitz	This is an annual military exercise of USA.
Exercise Keen Sword	The exercise organized between USA and Japan.
Foal Eagle	Foal Eagle is combined Field Training Exercise annually by the Republic of Korea Armed Forces and US Armed Forces.
GARUDA	India-France
HAND-HAND	India-China

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INDRA	India-Russia
Iron Fist	This is a bilaterla training event between USA and Japan forces.
JIMEX	India-Japan
Key Resolve	It is an annual command post exercise held by United States Forces Korea and colcluded with the Republic of Korea Armed Forces.
KOMADO-2014	Indonesia
MALBAR	US-India
MARITIME-coperation	India, China and Pakistan
MILAN	India and 16 Countries
Mitra Shakti	India-Sri Lanka
NASEEM AL-BAHR	India-Oman
PEACE ANGLE-2014	Pakistan-China
Pitch Black Exercise	It is a biennial warfare exercise hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force held in Northern Australia.
Red Flag Exercise	It is an advanced aerial combat training exercise hosted by Nevada and Alaska.
Rim of the Pacific Exercise (RIMPAC)	This is World's largest International Maritime Warfare Exercise hosted biannually from Honolulu, Hawaii.
SHADE	Naval Forces of India, Japan and China
SHATRUJEE	India-USA
SIMBEX	India-Singapore
START	Russia-USA
Surya Kiran-VII	It is joint military exercise between India and Nepal. Surya Kiran-VII organized at Pithorgarh, Uttarakhand.
TROPEX	India Naval Exercise
Ulchi Freedom Guardian	This military exercisely is a combined military exercise between South Korea and USA. This is World's largest computerized command andcontrol implementation.
Yudh Abhyas 2014	Combined military training exercise of India-USA.

List of Cabinet Minister as on 30.11.2014

Person Name	Position
Narendra Modi, Head of the Government	Prime Minister, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, All important policy issues and all other portfolios not allocated to any Minister
Rajnath Singh	Home Affairs
Sushma Swaraj	External Affairs, Overseas Indian Affairs
Arun Jaitley	Finance, Corporate Affairs, Information & Broadcasting
Manohar Parrikar	Defence
Radha Mohan Singh	Agriculture
J.P. Nadda	Health and Family Welfare
M. Venkaiah Naidu	Urban Development, Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Parliamentary Affairs
Nitin Jairam Gadkari	Road Transport and Highways, Shipping
Suresh Prabhu	Railways
Uma Bharati	Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation
Dr.Najma A. Heptulla	Minority Affairs
Chaudhary Birender Singh	Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Drinking Water and Sanitation
Ramvilas Paswan	Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Kalraj Mishra	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
Maneka Sanjay Gandhi	Women and Child Development
Ananth Kumar	Chemicals and Fertilizers
Ravi Shankar Prasad	Communications and Information Technology
A.G. Raju Pusapati	Civil Aviation
Anant Geete	Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises
Harsimrat Kaur Badal	Food Processing Industries
Narendra Singh Tomar	Mines, Steel, Labour and Employment
Jual Oram	Tribal Affairs
Sadananda Gowda	Law and Justice
Thaawar Chand Gehlot	Social Justice and Empowerment
Smriti Zubin Irani	Human Resource Development

Dr.Harsh Vardhan	Science & Technology/Earth Science
Other Appointments	
Deepak Gupta	Chairman of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)
Justice C.K. Prasad	Chairman of the Press Council of India
Hasmukh Adhia	Union Financial Services Secretary
G.S. Sandhu	Chairman of National Chemical Weapon Convention
Laxmikant Parsekar	Chief Minister, Goa
Anita Kapur	Chairperson of the Central Board of Direct Taxes

Union Budget 2015-16

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley introduced Union Budget 2015-16. It was a budget for corporates as corporate tax reduced from 30% to 25%. Further decreased custom duty on raw materials. Tax benefit on hiring on employees base also widened.

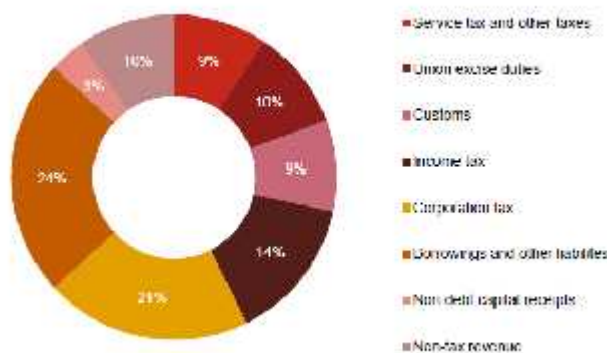
There was nothing for middle class. Service tax increased from 12.36% to 16%. 80C limit and Tax slabs remained unchanged. Although tax benefits under 80D increased but that's for health insurance. Health insurance is not so popular and people in middle class don't avail policy of Rs.20,000 per annum.

Further subsidy decreased on Petroleum products. Everything is expensive for middle class.

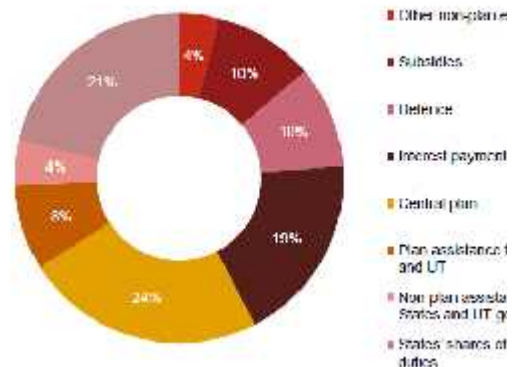
Financial sector

- Commodity futures and the government bond market merged with SEBI
- Build GIFT(Gujarat International Finance Tec-City) as an International Financial Services Centre (IFSC)
- Employees will be given choice to opt out EPF and pick NPS instead
- To bring Bankruptcy code in 2015
- Mudra Bank will be started for Micro finance market with capital of Rs.20,000

Where the Rupee comes from



Where the Rupee goes to



Welfare schemes

- MNREGA corpus this year - Rs.34,699 cr

- Rs.1400 cr allocated to child development scheme
- Rs 5,000 crore to new infra fund
- Indian gold coins to be launched with Ashok Chakra
- 80,000 secondary schools to get upgrade
- Insurance cover of Rs 2 lakh for a premium of Rs 12/yr - Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bhim Yojana
- 50,000 toilets to be constructed under Swach Bharat scheme
- To use Rs.9000 crores unclaimed funds in PPF and EPF for senior citizens pension fund

Education

- 80,000 secondary schools to be upgraded
- ISM to be upgraded to IIT
- IIT to be built in Karnataka
- IIM to be built in Jammu and Kashmir
- Atal innovation Mission for innovation
- Horticulture university to be established in Punjab
- Jammu and Kashmir, Assam, Tamilnadu, Himachal pradesh to get new AIIMs

Infrastructure

- Five ultra-mega power projects, each of 4,000MWs
- 2nd unit of Kundankulam nuclear plant to be established in 2015-16
- Tax free bonds to be introduced for Rail and Road projects

Agriculture

- Rs.25,000 Rural Infrastructure Development Bank
- Rs.5300 for micro irrigation program

Taxation

Direct taxes

- Personal taxation rates remained same
- Corporate tax decreased from 30% to 25% for four years
- PAN card is mandatory on purchase of more than Rs.1,00,000
- Surcharge on income of Rs.1 crore or more increased from 10% to 12%
- Surcharge on Dividend Distribution Tax increased from 10% to 12%
- Wealth tax has been abolished
- Deduction of Rs.50,000 will be available for investment in National Pension Scheme.
- Limit on Tax free Investment in LIC Annuity plan or any other Pension plan increased from Rs.1,00,000 to Rs.1,50,000
- Transport allowance increased from Rs.800 to Rs.1600 per month
- Contribution made in name of girl child will be tax free under section 80C. Interest earned in Sukanya Samridhhi account will also be tax free.
- Health insurance limit increased under section 80D. For individual, children and spouse it increased from Rs.15000 to Rs.25,000. For senior citizens it increased from Rs.20,000 to Rs.30,000
- Deduction available for dependent person with disability increased from Rs.75,000 to Rs.1,00,000. For person with severe disability, limit increased from Rs.1,00,000 to Rs.1,25,000.
- Swach Bharat Kosh and Clean Ganga Fund added in 80G list of eligible institutions
- TDS will now be applicable on Recurring Deposit accounts if interest earned is more than Rs.10,000 per annum
- Up to 10 years imprisonment for under black money laundering act

Indirect taxes

- Goods and Services Tax (GST) will be introduced from 1 April 2016

- Custom duty decreased on raw materials
- Subsidy decreased on Petrol and Diesel. Petrol prices increased by Rs.3.18 and Diesel prices increased by Rs.3.09
- Excise duty on Mobile phones increased from 6% to 12.5%
- Excise duty on Leather footwear exceeding Rs.1000 decreased from 12% to 6%
- CENVAT on input goods and service time limit increased from 6 months to 1 year
- Effective Service tax rate increased from 12.36% to 16%.
- Education cess removed from service tax. Swachh Bharat cess of 2% introduced on service tax.
- Services provided by Mutual fund agent or distributor removed from negative list

BUDGET AT A GLANCE				
 (Figures in ₹ crore)	2013-14 Actuals	2014-15 Budget Estimates	2014-15 Revised Estimates	2015-16 Budget Estimates
Revenue Receipts	10,14,724	11,89,763	11,26,294	11,41,575
Capital Receipts	5,44,723	6,05,129	5,54,864	6,35,902
Total Receipts	15,59,447	17,94,892	16,81,158	17,77,477
Non-Plan Expenditure	11,06,120	12,19,892	12,13,224	13,12,200
Plan Expenditure	4,53,327	5,75,000	4,67,934	4,65,277
Total Expenditure	15,59,447	17,94,892	16,81,158	17,77,477
Revenue Deficit	3,57,048	3,78,348	3,62,485	3,94,472
Effective Revenue Deficit	2,27,630	2,10,244	2,30,588	2,83,921
Fiscal Deficit	5,02,858	5,31,177	5,12,628	5,55,649
Primary Deficit	1,28,604	1,04,166	1,01,274	99,504

PIB/KBK

Railway Budget 2015-16 - Analysis and Highlights

This year's Railway budget speech was a heavy dose of honesty. Railway minister Suresh Prabhu's speech shown the real condition of railways. There were no fake promises.

He clearly told that during last 10 years 99 railway projects were started which took Rs.60,000 crore investment. Out of them only 1 project has been completed. Railway minister clearly stated that He don't want to waste taxpayers resources so there were no big and fat promises.

Financial Performance for the year 2014-15

- Total Receipts were ` 1,39,558 crore
- Total Expenses - 1,30,321 crore,
- Operating ratio - 93.6%

Budget Estimates for 2015-16

- total receipts - 1,64,374 crore
- total expenditure - 1,49,176 crore.
- Operating ratio - 88.5%

Highlights

- There will be no hike in passenger fares in the year 2015-16
- No new trains
- Social service obligation rose from 9.4% of Gross Traffic Receipts in 2000-01 to 16.6% in 2010-11
- Bullet train to be introduced in Mumbai-Ahmedabad route
- CCTVs to be installed to monitor cleanliness
- eTicketing system to be upgraded. Right 2000 tickets can be booked per second. It is proposed to increase this limit to 7200 per second. This system will be able to handle 1,20,000 users simultaneously.
- Ultrasonic system to be installed to detect problems in tracks
- 17,000 toilets to be replaced by bio-toilets
- Track capacity to be increased to 1.38 lakh km
- Railways to raise finances via PPP, FDI
- 4,000 women constables to be recruited in RPF
- Battery operated cars to be provided at major stations for Physically disable people
- Nation wise helplines to be installed. Toll free number -182 (It will be active from 01-03-2015)
- Tickets can be booked 4 months prior to travel, earlier it was 2 months
- Senior citizens to get lower births
- Entry gates will be broader
- Disposable bags will be provided for sleeper passengers
- Mechanical designing of new engines that would consume less fuel
- Water vending machines to be installed at stations
- e-Tickets will be available in lical language
- WiFi facility will be provided at railway stations

New Trains

A) Jansadharan Trains

1. Ahmedabad – Darbhanga Jansadharan Express via Surat
2. Jaynagar – Mumbai Jansadharan Express
3. Mumbai – Gorakhpur Jansadharan Express
4. Saharasa – Anand Vihar Jansadharan Express via Motihari
5. Saharasa – Amritsar Jansadharan Express

B) Premium Trains

1. Mumbai Central – New Delhi Premium AC Express
2. Shalimar – Chennai Premium AC Express
3. Secunderabad- Hazrat Nizamuddin Premium AC Express
4. Jaipur – Madurai Premium Express
5. Kamakhya – Bengaluru Premium Express

C) AC Express Trains

1. Vijayawada-New Delhi AP Express (Daily)
2. Lokmanya Tilak (T) – Lucknow (Weekly)
3. Nagpur – Pune (Weekly)
4. Nagpur – Amritsar (Weekly)
5. Naharlagun – New Delhi (Weekly)
6. Nizamuddin – Pune (Weekly)

D) Express Trains

1. Ahmedabad – Patna Express (Weekly) via Varanasi
2. Ahmedabad - Chennai Express (Bi-weekly) via Vasai Road
3. Bengaluru – Mangalore Express (Daily)

4. Bengaluru – Shimoga Express (Bi-weekly)
5. Bandra (T) – Jaipur Express (Weekly) Via Nagda, Kota
6. Bidar – Mumbai Express (Weekly)
7. Chhapra – Lucknow Express (Tri-weekly) via Ballia, Ghazipur,
8. Varanasi
9. Ferozpur – Chandigarh Express (6 days a week)
10. Guwahati – Naharlagun Intercity Express (Daily)
11. Guwahati – Murkongselek Intercity Express (Daily)
12. Gorakhpur – Anand Vihar Express (Weekly)
13. Hapa – Bilaspur Express (Weekly) via Nagpur
14. Hazur Saheb Nanded – Bikaner Express (Weekly)
15. Indore – Jammu Tawi Express (Weekly)
16. Kamakhya – Katra Express (Weekly) via Darbhanga
17. Kanpur – Jammu Tawi Express (Bi-weekly)
18. Lokmanya Tilak (T) – Azamgarh Express (Weekly)
19. Mumbai – Kazipeth Express (Weekly) via Balharshah
20. Mumbai – Palitana Express (Weekly)
21. New Delhi - Bhatinda Shatabdi Express (Bi-weekly)
22. New Delhi – Varanasi Express (Daily)
23. Paradeep – Howrah Express (Weekly)
24. Paradeep – Visakhapatnam Express (Weekly)
25. Rajkot – Rewa Express (Weekly)
26. Ramnagar – Agra Express (Weekly)
27. Tatanagar – Baiyyappanahali (Bengaluru) Express (Weekly)
28. Visakhapatnam – Chennai Express (Weekly)

E) Passenger Trains

1. Bikaner – Rewari Passenger (Daily)
2. Dharwad – Dandeli Passenger (Daily) via Alnavar
3. Gorakhpur – Nautanwa Passenger (Daily)
4. Guwahati – Mendipathar Passenger (Daily)
5. Hatia – Rourkela Passenger
6. Byndoor – Kasaragod Passenger (Daily)
7. Rangapara North – Rangiya Passenger (Daily)
8. Yesvantpur – Tumkur Passenger (Daily)

F) MEMU services

1. Bengaluru – Ramanagaram 6 days a week (3 Pairs)
2. Palwal – Delhi – Aligarh
3. DEMU services
4. Bengaluru – Neelmangala (Daily)
5. Chhapra – Manduadih (6 days a week) via Ballia
6. Baramula – Banihal (Daily)
7. Sambalpur – Rourkela (6 days a week)

Ministers and their constituencies

Narendra Modi	Prime Minister	Varanasi
Rajnath Singh	Home Minister	Lucknow
Sushma Swaraj	External Affairs Minister	Vidisha
Arun Jaitley	Finance Minister	Rajya Sabha MP
Manohar Parrikar	Defence Minister	Rajya Sabha MP
Radha Mohan Singh	Agriculture Minister	Purvi Champaran

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J.P. Nadda	Health Minister	Rajya Sabha MP
M. Venkaiah Naidu	Urban Development Minister	Rajya Sabha MP
Nitin Jairam Gadkari	Transport Minister	Nagpur
Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu	Railway Minister	Rajapur
Uma Bharati	Water Resources Minister	Jhansi
Dr.Najma A. Heptulla	Minority Affairs Minister	Rajya Sabha MP
Chaudhary Birender Singh	Rural Development Minister	Rajya Sabha MP
Ramvilas Pasvan	Consumer Affairs Minister	Hajipur
Kalraj Mishra	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	Deoria
Maneka Sanjay Gandhi	Women and Child Development Minister	Pilibhit
Ananth Kumar	Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister	Bangalore South
Ravi Shankar Prasad	Communication and IT Minister	Rajya Sabha MP
A.G. Raju Pusapati	Civil Aviation Minister	Vizianagaram
Anant Geete	Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises	Raigad
Harsimrat Kaur Badal	Food Processing Industries	Bathinda
Narendra Singh Tomar	Mines, Steel, Labour and Employment	Gwalior
Jual Oram	Tribal Affairs Minister	Sundergarh
D.V. Sadananda Gauda	Law Minister	Bangalore North
Thaawar Chand Gehlot	Social Justice and Empowerment	Rajya Sabha MP
Smriti Zubin Irani	Human Resource Development Minister	Rajya Sabha MP
Dr.Harsh Vardhan	Science and Technology Minister	Delhi

Important Indian Organizations and their Heads

This list is very important for all banking exams.

Sr	Head	Organization
1.	Mohd.Hamid Ansari	Chairman, Rajya Sabha
2.	Sumitra Mahajan	Chairperson of Lok Sabha
3.	Narendra D Modi	Chairman, Planning Commission
4.	Gulam Nabi Azad	Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha
5.	Narendra D Modi	Leader of House in Lok Sabha
6.	Mallikarjun Kharge	Leader of Congress in Lok Sabha
7.	V. Sampath	Chief Election Commissioner
8.	Syed Nasim Ahmed Zaidi	Election Commissioner
9.	Harisanker Brahma	Election Commissioner
10.	Pradeep Kumar	Chief Vigilance Commissioner
11.	Sujatha Singh	Foreign Secretary
12.	Shashi Kant Verma	Comptroller & Auditor General of India
13.	Jus. Vangala Eswaraiah	Chairman, National Commission for Backward Classes
14.	Rahul Khullar	Chairman, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
15.	Ranjit Sinha	CBI Director
16.	Rameshwar Oran	Chairman, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

17.	Naseem Ahmed	Chairperson, National Commission for Minorities
18.	Rajni Razdan	Chairman, UPSC
19.	Sharad Kumar	Director General, National Investigation Agency
20.	Ved Prakash	Chairman, UGC
21.	K. Radhakrishnan	Chairman, Space Commission and ISRO
22.	R.K. Sinha	Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission and Sec. Deptt. of Atomic Energy
23.	A. Bhattacharya	Chairman, SSC
24.	K.G. Balakrishnan	Chairman, Human Rights Commission
25.	C. Chandramouli	Registrar General of India and Census Commissioner
26.	K.V.Choudhary	Central Board of Direct Taxes
27.	T.S. Vijayan	Chairman, Insurance Regulatory Development Authority
28.	U.K. Sinha	Chairman, Securities & Exchange Board of India
29.	Arundhati Bhattacharya	Chairperson, State Bank of India
30.	S.K. Roy	Managing Director, LIC
31.	Ashoke Kumar Mukherjee	India's permanent representative in UNO
32.	Nirupam Sen	Spl. Sr. Advisor to President of UN General Assembly
33.	Mamta Sharma	Chairperson of National Commission for Women
34.	Y.V. Reddy	Chairman, 14 th Finance Commission
35.	Ashok Chawla	Chairman, Competition Commission of India
36.	Leela Samson	Chairperson, Central Board of Film Certification
37.	Rana Kapoor	President, ASSOCHAM
38.	R. Chandrasekhar	Chairman, NASSCOM
39.	R. Chandrashekar	President, NASSCOM
40.	Alok Joshi	Director General, RAW
41.	Amole Gupte	Chairperson, Children Film Society of India
42.	S. Banerjee	Director, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
43.	Ajay S. Shriram	President, CII
44.	Siddhartha Birla	President, FICCI
45.	Sam Pitroda	Chairman, National Knowledge Commission
46.	Ramesh Sippy	Chairman, National Film Development Corporation
47.	Mrinal Pande	Chairperson, Prasar Bharati
48.	Ratan Tata	Chairman, Investment Commission
49.	Avinash Chander	Scientific advisor to PM and Head DRDO
50.	Jawhar Sircar	Chairman, Prasar Bharati
51.	T.M.Basin	Chairman, Indian Banks Association
52.	Rajeev Mathur	Chief Information Commissioner
53.	Prof. Parvin Sinclair	Director, NCERT
54.	Ajit Doval	National Security Advisor

Mergers and Acquisitions - Explained in Simple Language

MERGERS – it is a very popular term – we've all come across this term now and again – we know what it means in general.

Merger is when two companies are merged/ combined together to form a new company.

De-merger is when one company is split into two separate companies.

Amalgamation is when one company is absorbed into another company.

Acquisition is when one company purchases another company.

Why do mergers and acquisitions happen?

Simply to earn more economic benefits! In business everything is just cold maths.

~ If two companies are doing okay-ish by themselves – but united they can become market leader – then they merge.

~ If a company sees another upcoming company as a potential threat – then it buys its competitors to retain its market position.

~ If a company sees that due to a particular division – the profits of the whole company is suffering – it demerges that segment into a different company or sells it to a willing buyer.

You get the drift?

Before we proceed – some very common terms:

(i) Acquiring company is the company which is acquiring or buying another company.

(ii) Target company is the company which is being bought or acquired.

(iii) Bid/ Bidding is when the acquiring company is putting a price and pursuing acquisition of another company.

Takeover Over Strategies:

As the name suggest these are strategies an acquiring company will use when it is bidding to acquire another company – the target company.

1. **Bear Hug** – Like a bear – takes the whole thing into its grasp - the acquiring company threatens the target to make an open offer for being acquired.
2. **Brand Power** – Facebook bought Whatsapp = alliance with powerful brands to displace the target's brand(s) and fortify own position even more.
3. **Street Sweep** – this one is a mastermind strategy – sort of like enter the enemy camp and compromise it from the inside!

Here the acquiring company accumulates large number of shares in the target company before making an open offer for acquisition. Since the acquiring already owns many shares the target company is left with no choice but to offer itself up for acquisition.

4. **Strategic Alliance** – carefully planned acquisition to strengthen one's market position – this is more of a joint venture – partnership to mutually benefit (like the Air India and Star Alliance, Vistara = Tata sons and Singapore Airlines!) instead of a buyout

And – all this is done to become better in business. Simple.

Defensive Tactics in case of hostile takeovers:

Hostile takeovers are when a company bids for another company – which does not want to be taken over at all! Classic case of the 80's movie villains kidnapping the heroines.

A takeover bid becomes hostile for many reasons – employees unwilling to join new company, employees may be given the slip, management may be changed etc, etc.

As far as possible hostile takeovers are always avoided – it is never good for business.

However if there exists a situation of a potential hostile takeover – and the target company wants to avoid being taken over, here are some tactics it can use.

1. **Poison Pill** – personal favourite – what happens in spy movies? When any enemy spy is captured – what does he do before he can be even pulled up from the ground by our hero spy? – he simply pops a cyanide pill into his mouth – carefully hidden in a fake teeth and goes – dead. So, now the captured spy becomes completely useless to the hero and his gang.

Same thing – when any company is being targeted for a hostile takeover – it tries its best to resist being taken over – and takes a poison pill = to make itself unattractive/ unprofitable/ unworthy of further consideration by the acquiring company.

Now, to make itself unattractive – several different methods may be employed – for example – issuing convertible debentures – thereby diluting control in future will pose a threat to the acquiring company – and hence avoid taking over such a company.

2. **Poison Put** – target company issues bonds and encourages the holders of the bonds to encash them at high price – this will result in a heavy cash outflow – and this inturn could help the target company save itself from a hostile take over.
3. **Crown Jewels & Divestiture** – crown jewels = the best of the jewels = the best of the lot = any business group's best/ main/ most profitable venture.

Divestiture is when a company sells or de-merges any part of its business into a subsidiary – and if such de-merged or spin-off is the successful businesses of the group – it means the target company sold its crown jewels to make itself unattractive to the acquiring company.

4. **White Knight** – who comes to save a damsel in distress?! A white knight in shiny white armour riding – in most occasions – a white horse!

When a company (damsel in distress) is facing hostile takeover – it offers itself for takeover by a friendly company (the white knight) – to escape being taken over by the (villain) bidding company!

5. **Green Mail** – is a peaceful solution to counter hostile takeover – here the target company offers some profitable incentives to the acquiring company as compensation to back off from acquiring it.
6. **Pac Man Defence** – surely you must have played Pac Man once in your lifetime! So, you should know – when the pac man eats one of the four power pellets, the ghosts turn blue and run away from the pac man and defends themselves – cuz they can be eaten by the pac man!

So, when a company is being targeted to be acquired – it can counter the bid of the acquiring company – and go after the acquiring company! The acquiring company will be too busy to save itself from being taken over and – as per theory will call off all its initial takeover plans!

Acquiring company backs off and the Target company now will breathe in peace J

Some noteworthy mergers and acquisitions of recent times:

1. Tata Motors bought Jaguar Land Rover Co. From Ford way back in 2008 – and is still a thing of pride for us! (U.K. Company)
2. Facebook bought Watsapp K - this one made a LOT of news.
3. Air India and Star Alliance (German Group)
4. Sun Pharmaceuticals bought Ranbaxy Laboratories – ..and now Daiichi Sankyo (Japanese Co.) is selling its shares in Sun Pharma which is had received when Sun bought Ranbaxy.
5. Tata Sons and Singapore Airlines = Vistara
6. Microsoft bought Nokia! (personally though, I like the name 'NOKIA' on the phones K)
7. Flipkart took over Myntra.
8. Reliance Industries Limited bought majority stake in Network 18.

List of Latest schemes and apps launched by banks 2015

1. Fedbook Selfie App(India's first mobile app for bank account opening) – **Federal Bank**
2. Airtel money – **AXIS BANK+AIRTEL**
3. Asha Home loan – **AXIS BANK**
4. BOUTIQUE FINANCING SCHEME – **SBI**
5. Branch on Wheel – **ICICI Bank in Odisha**
6. Bank of India – Instant Money Transfer – **IMT**
7. Chillar – **Hdfc Bank**
8. China's first online Banking "webank" – **Tancet Holdings**
9. DDA Housing Scheme 2014 – **HDFC Bank**
10. Digital Banking "POCKET" – **ICICI Bank**
11. Digital Village Project in Akodara Village of Gujarat – **ICICI Bank**
12. eforex – **SBI Bank**
13. E-KYC – **SBI Bank**
14. EMI ON DEBIT CARD – **ICICI BANK**
15. E-Wallet – **IRCTC**
16. Facebook-based funds transfer platform "KayPay" – **Kotak Mahindra Bank**
17. First home grown INDEX "COMPOSITE INDEX" – **SBI**
18. I-Mobile app for windows phone – **ICICI**
19. India's first" transparent credit card "in association with American Express – **ICICI**
20. India's first credit card exclusively for GOLF LOVERS – **RBL Bank**
21. Instant money transfer – **BOI**
22. Instant Money Transfer (IMT) – **Bank of India**
23. Kotak Mahindra Bank launched Facebook-based funds transfer platform – "KayPay"
24. Kisan card – **AXIS BANK**
25. Maha Millionaire", "Maha Lakhpati" – **Bank of Maharashtra**
26. M-Pesa – **ICICI+Vodafone**
27. M-Wallet – **Canara Bank**
28. State Bank Freedom App – **State Bank of India**
29. Student Travel Card – **ICICI Bank**
30. TAB BANKING FACILITY – **SBI Bank**
31. **Tancet Holdings** – China's first online Banking"webank"
32. Tap and pay – **ICICI Bank**
33. Twitter Handle account – **SBI Bank**
34. Video conferencing – **Indusuld & federal bank**
35. Youth for India – **SBI Bank**

Important Parliamentary Acts related to Banking sector in India

Herein below table provides edifying information about some consequential acts in regards to the BFSI sector and various tax related amendments.

Name of the Act	Year of Promulgation
Societies' Registration Act	1860
Negotiable Instruments Act	1881
Co-operative Societies Act	1912
Provident Funds Act	1925

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Reserve Bank of India Act	1934
Insurance Act	1938
Central Excise Act	1944
Public Debt Act	1944
International Monetary Fund and Bank Act	1945
Employees' State Insurance Act	1948
Banking Regulation Act	1949
Chartered Accountants Act	1949
Contingency Fund of India Act	1950
Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act	1952
State Bank of India Act	1955
Life Insurance Corporation Act	1956
Securities Contract Act	
Companies Act	
Central Sales Tax Act	
State Bank of Hyderabad Act	
State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act	1959
Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation Act	1961
Customs Act	1962
Unit Trust of India Act	1963
Nationalization of Banks Act (<i>But government decided to nationalize 14 major commercial banks on 19th July, 1969.</i>)	1964
Banking Laws (Application to Co-operative Societies) Act	1965
PPF Act	1968
General Insurance Business (Nationalization) Act	1972
Regional Rural Banks Act	1976
Prize Chits and Money Circulation Scheme (Banning) Act	1978
Export-Import Bank of India Act	1981
NABARD Act	1981
Chit Funds Act	1982
General Insurance Business (Nationalization) Amendment Act	1985
Securities and Exchange Board of India Act	1992
Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act	1999

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Foreign Exchange Management Act	1999
Prevention of Money Laundering Act	2002
Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act	2002
Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act. (Colloquially, SARFAESI Act)	2002
Government Securities Act	2006
Securities Laws (Amendment) Act	2014
The Regional Rural Banks (Amendment) Act- Diluted the sharing pattern by limiting the composite share of central govt. and sponsor bank to 51%	2014
The Insurance Laws (Amendment) Act- Pushed FDI limit to 49%	2015

List of important days for banking and insurance exams

Event	Day
National Youth Day (Birthday of Swami Vivekanand)	January 12
Army Day	January 15
Desh Prem Divas (Birthday of Neta Ji Subhash Chandra Bose)	January 23
National Girl Child Day (Day Indira Gandhi became PM of India)	January 24
National Voters Day (Establishment of Election Commission)	January 25
International Customs Day	January 26
Martyrs Day (Death of Mahatma Gandhi)	January 30
BSF Raising Day, World AIDS Day	December 1
International Day for Abolition of Slavery (UNO)	December 2
International Day of Disabled Persons, World Conservation Day	December 3
Armed Forces Day	December 6
International Civil Aviation Day	December 7
National Immunization Day	December 9
Human Rights Day	December 10
UNICEF Day	December 11
National Energy Conservation Day	December 14
Vijay Divas	December 16
Mathematics Day	December 22

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Kisan Day (Birthday of Chaudhary Charan Singh)	December 23
National Consumer Day	December 24
X-Mas Day	December 25
International Day for Biological Diversity	December 29
Infant Protection Day, World Cancer Awareness Day	November 7
International Radiology Day	November 8
World Legal Service Day	November 9
Transport Day	November 10
National Children Day, World Diabetes Day	November 14
World Fisheries Day	November 21
International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against women	November 25
National Law Day	November 26
National Flag Day	November 30

List of important days, useful for general awareness section of banking exams

List of important Days	
April Fools Day	April 1
Australia Day	January 26
Bangladesh Independence Day	March 26
Black Day	April 14
Boxing Day	December 26
Central Excise Day	February 24
Christmas Day	December 25
Coal Miners Day	May 4
Coconut Day	September 2
Commonwealth Day	2 nd Monday of March
Darwin Day	February 12
Day of Dialogue	April 15
Day of Silence	April 15
Desh Prem Divas	January 23
Doctor's Day	July 1
Earth Day	April 22
Foursquare Day	April 16
Global Handwashing Day	October 15
Hiroshima Day	August 6
Hug Day	February 13
Human Rights Day	December 10
Indian Air Force Day	October 8
Indian Army Day	January 15
Indian Navy Day	December 4
Indian Republic Day	January 26

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International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking	June 26
International Day for Biological Diversity	May 22
International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	March 21
International Day of Families	May 15
International Day of Non-Violence	October 2
International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation	February 6
International Men's Day	November 19
International Mother Language Day	February 21
International Nurses Day	May 12
International Tiger Day	July 29
International Women's Day	March 8
International Worker's Day	May 1
International Youth Day	August 12
Kisan Divas	December 23
Legal Services Day	November 9
May Day	May 1
Mother' Day	2 nd Sunday of May
Myanmar Independence Day	January 4
National Children's Day	November 14
National Engineer's Day	September 15
National Hug Day	January 21
National Post Day	October 10
National Science Day	February 28
National Sports Day	August 29
National Teacher's Day	September 5
National Technology Day	May 11
National Voter's Day	January 25
National Youth Day	January 12
Non-resident Indian Day	January 9
Patriot Day	September 11
Photography Day	August 19
Purple Day	March 26
Quit India Day, Nagasaki Day	August 9
Rare Disease Day	February 28
Sri Lanka Independence Day	February 4
Street Children's Day	January 31
Thinking Day	February 22
Towel Day	May 25
United Nations International Day of Persons with Disabilities	December 3
Valentine's Day	February 14
White Day	March 14
World AIDS Day	December 1
World Animal Day	October 4
World Autism Awareness Day	April 2
World Blood Donor Day	June 14
World Book Day	April 23
World Cancer Day	February 4
World Diabetes Day	November 14
World Disabled Day	March 15
World Down Syndrome Day	March 21

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World Environment Day	June 5
World Food Day	October 16
World Habitat Day	October 3
World Health Day	April 7
World Hemophilia Day	April 17
World Heritage Day	April 18
World Information Society Day	May 17
World Intellectual Property Day	April 26
World Laughter Day	First Sunday of May
World Literacy Day	September 8
World Malaria Day	April 25
World Marriage Day	2 nd Sunday of February
World Mental Health Day	October 10
World Meteorological Day	March 23
World Music Day	June 21
World No Tobacco Day	May 31
World Oceans Day	June 8
World Ozone Day	September 16
World Poetry Day	March 21
World Population Day	July 11
World Post Office Day	October 9
World Press Freedom Day, World Asthma Day	May 3
World Red Cross Day	May 8
World Refugee Day	June 20
World Senior Citizen's Day	August 8
World Sight Day	2 nd Thursday of October
World Sparrow Day	March 20
World Telecommunication Day	May 17
World Toilet Day	November 19
World Tourism Day	September 27
World Tuberculosis Day	March 24
World Vegetarian Day	October 1
World Water Day	March 22

Important days to remember for August, September and October

October

International Non-Violence Day	October 02
World Habitat Day	October 03
World Teacher's Day	October 05
Indian Air Force Day	October 08
World Post Day	October 09
World Food Day	October 16
United Nation (UN) Day	October 24

September

Teacher's Day (Birth Day of S. Radhakrishnan)	September 05
World Literacy Day	September 08
Raj Bhasha Divas (Hindi Divas)	September 14

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World Deaf Day	September 23
World Tourism Day	September 27
World Heart Day	September 29

August

World Breast – Feeding Week	August 01-07
Friendship Day	August 05
Hiroshima Day	August 06
August Kranti Divas	August 09
Nagasaki Day	August 09
Dengue Prevention Day	August 10
International Youth Day	August 12
National Independence Day	August 15
World Photography Day	August 19
Sanskrit Day	August 24
Women's Equality Day	August 26
National Sports Day	August 29

INDIAN STATES - CAPITAL - CHIEF MINISTER (CM) - GOVERNOR

State / UT	Capital	Chief Minister	Governor
Andaman and Nicobar	Port Blair		A. K. Singh (Lieutenant Gov.)
Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	N. Chandrababu Naidu	E. S. L. Narasimhan
Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	Nabam Tuki	Jyoti Prasad Rajkhowa
Assam	Dispur	Tarun Gogoi	Padmanabha Acharya
Bihar	Patna	Nitish Kumar	Ram Nath Kovind
Chandigarh	Chandigarh		Kaptan Singh Solanki
Chhattisgarh	Raipur	Raman Singh	Balram Das Tandon
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Silvassa		Ashish Kundra (Administrator)
Daman and Diu	Daman		Ashish Kundra (Administrator)
Delhi		Arvind Kejriwal	Najeeb Jung
Goa	Panaji	Laxmikant Parsekar	Mridula Sinha

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Gujarat	Gandhinagar	Anandiben Patel	Om Prakash Kohli
Haryana	Chandigarh	Manohar lal Khattar	Kaptan Singh Solanki
Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	Virbhadra singh	Acharya Dev Vrat
Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar (Summer), Jammu (Winter)	MuftiMohammadSayeed	Narinder Nath Vohra
Jharkhand	Ranchi	Raghuvar Das	Draupadi Murmu
Karnataka	Bengaluru	Siddaramaiah	Vajubhai Vala
Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	Oommen Chandy	P. Sathasivam
Lakshadweep	Kavaratti		H. Rajesh Prasad (administrator)
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	Shivraj Singh Chauhan	Ram Naresh Yadav
Maharashtra	Mumbai	Devendra Fadanvis	C. Vidyasagar Rao
Manipur	Imphal	Okram Iboby Singh	Syed Ahmed
Meghalaya	Shillong	Mukul Sangma	V. Shanmuganathan
Mizoram	Aizawl	Lal Thanhawla	Nirbhay Sharma
Nagaland	Kohima	T.R. Zeliang	Padmanabha Acharya
Odisha	Bhubaneshwar	Naveen Patnaik	S. C. Jamir
Puducherry	Pondicherry	N.Rangaswamy	A. K. Singh
Punjab	Chandigarh	Prakash SinghBadal	Kaptan Singh Solanki
Rajasthan	Jaipur	Vasundhara Raje	Kalyan Singh
Sikkim	Gangtok	Pawan Kumar Chamling	Shriniwas Dadasaheb Patil
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	Jayalalithaa	Konijeti Rosaiah
Telangana	Hyderabad	K. Chandrashekra Rao	E. S. L. Narasimhan

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Tripura	Agartala	Manik Sarkar	Tathagata Roy
Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	Akhilesh Yadav	Ram Naik
Uttarakhand	Dehradun	Harish Rawat	Krishan Kant Paul
West Bengal	Kolkata	Mamata Banerjee	Keshari Nath Tripathi

Now here is the list of 7 Union Territories - Their Lieutenant Governors/ Administrators.
Updated on 09.08.2015.

Sr. No.	Union Territory	Name	Position
1	Andaman and Nicobar Island	A.K.Singh	LieutenantGovernor
2	Chandigarh	Kaptan Singh Solanki	Administrator
3	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Ashish Kundra	"
4	Daman and Diu	Ashish Kundra	"
5	Delhi	Arvind Kejriwal / Nazeeb Jung	Chief Minister /LieutenantGovernor
6	Lakshadweep	H.Rajesh Prasad	"
7	Puducherry	A.K.Singh	LieutenantGovernor

Mind Tricks	States	Current Chief Minister
5 Saal Kejriwaal	Delhi	Arvind Kejriwal(67 seats out of 70)
Utrakhand ke Hari	Utrakhand	Harish Rawat
Jharkhand k Das	Jharkhand	Raghubar Das
Gujrat ki Bahan	Gujrat	Anandi Ben Patel
Haryana k Lal	Haryana	Manohar Lal Khattar
Maharastra ki Dawat Faado	Maharastra	Davendra Fadnavis
Goa k Par Se	Goa	Parsekar
Aandhra K Andha Baba	Andhra Pradesh	Chandra Baabu Naidu
Orisha ki Udi Patang	Orisha	Navin Patnaik
Tamil Ki Amma	Tami Nadu	Jaya Lalitha (5times Elected)

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Telangana Chaand k sikhar par	Telangana	K.Chandra Shekhar Rao
Bihar Ki Niti	Bihar	Nitish Kumar (4th Times Elected)
Bengal ki Didi	W. Bengal	Mamata Banerjee
Assam ki chai m pati bhigoi	Assam	Tarun Gogoi
Arunachal Pradesh k Tuke	Arunachal Pradesh	Nabam Tuki(raised stapled visa issue)
Rajashtan ki Vashundra	Rajasthan	Vashundra Raje
Uttar Ka BSP	Uttar Pradesh	Akhilesh Yadav
Chhattisgarh k Raman	Chhattisgarh	Raman Singh
Jammu k Mufti	J&K	Mufti Mohammad Sayeed (PDP)
MP k ShivRaj	Madhya Pradesh	Shiv Raj Singh Chouhan
Kerala ki Chaandi	Kerala	Oommen Chandy
CM Karnatak sidhar gye	Karnataka	Siddaramaiah
Punjab m Badal	Punjab	Prakash Singh Badal(Awarded Padma Vibhushan)
Himalaya m Sir dard	Himachal	Virbhadra Singh
Sikkim ke Chaman	Sikkim	Pawan Chamling (Record of completing 20 years)

List of important International Organizations with their headquarters, foundation years, heads and purpose

Name	Headquarters	Heads	Foundation Year	Number of Members Countries	Purpose
International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)	Lyon, France	Mrs. Ballestrazzi	7 September, 1923	190	Connecting Police for a safer world
World Bank	Washington D.C. (U.S.A.)	Jim Yong Kim	July, 1944	188 (IBRD), 172 (IDA)	Crediting, Working for a world free of Poverty
IBRD	Washington D.C. (U.S.A.)	Jim Yong Kim	1944	188	Development Assistance, Poverty Reduction
ICSID (International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes)	Washington D.C. (U.S.A.)	Jim Yong Kim	1957 (But operating starts in 1966)	159	International Arbitration

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International Finance Corporation (IFC)	Washington D.C. (U.S.A.)	Jim Yong Kim	24 July, 1956	184	Private Sector Development, Poverty Reduction
Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)	Washington D.C. (U.S.A.)	Jim Yong Kim	1988	181	Political Risk Insurance, Foreign Direct Investment
World Trade Organization (WTO)	Geneva, Switzerland	Roberto Azevedo	1 January, 1995	161	Regulate International Trade
International Monetary Fund (IMF)	Washington D.C. (U.S.A.)	Christine Lagarde	27 December, 1945	188	To promotes international economic cooperation
Bank for International Settlements (BIS)	Basel, Switzerland	Jaime Caruana	17 May, 1930	60 Central Banks	Central Bank Cooperation
Asian Development Bank (ADB)	Metro Manila, Philippines	Takehiko Nakao	22 August, 1966	67	Crediting
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)	Geneva Switzerland	Francis Gurry	14 July, 1967	148	To promote the protection of intellectual property throughout the world
World Health Organization (WHO)	Geneva Switzerland	Margaret Chan	7 April, 1948	194	Health For All
International Labour Organization (ILO)	Geneva Switzerland	Guy Ryder	1919	186	
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	Rome, Italy	Kanayo F. Nwanze	1977		Enabling the Rural Poor to Overcome Poverty
UNICEF	New York	Anthony Lake	11-Dec-1946		To provide food and healthcare to children of those countries which devastated by world war II.
UN International Training and Research Center (UNITAR)	Geneva Switzerland	Sally Fegan-Wyles	1963		To achieve the major objectives of UN through training and research
UN Environmental Program (UNEP)	Nairobi, Kenya	Achim Steiner	5 June, 1972		Protect our environment and conserve our future
UN Development Program (UNDP)	New York	Helen Clark	1965	166	Overall development
UN Capital Development Fund	New York		1966	For 48 least developed	Eradicate extreme hunger poverty,

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(UNCDF)				countries	Promotes equality, Ensures Environment Sustainability
International Cricket Council	Dubai, United Arab Emirates	Zaheer Abbas	15 June, 1909	105	Great Sport, Great Spirit
North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)	Brussels, Belgium	Philip M. Breedlove	4 April, 1949	28	A mind unfettered in deliberation

In most of the competitive exams you will see at least one question from important international organizations and their heads

Organizations	Head
International Atomic Energy Agency	Yukiya Amano
United Nations	Ban Ki Moon
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	Anthony Lake
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	Irina Bokova
Arab League	Nabil Elaraby
Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)	Le Luong Minh
European Union (EU)	Herman Van Rompuy
Group of Eight (G8)	David Cameron
North Atlantic Treaty Organisation	Anders Fogh Rasmussen
South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation	Ahmed Saleem
World Trade Organization (WTO)	Roberto Azevêdo
Asian Development Bank	Takehikonakao
International Monetary Fund	Christine Lagarde
World Bank	Jim Yong Kim
Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA)	Sepp Blatter
International Cricket Council (ICC)	N. Srinivasan
International Olympic Committee (IOC)	Thomas Bach
Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)	Edmund Daukoru
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)	Francis Gurry
World Food Programme (WFP)	Josette Sheeran
World Health Organization (WHO)	Margaret Chan
Commonwealth of Nations	Queen Elizabeth II
Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)	Mahmoud Ahmadinejad
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	José Ángel Gurría
Asian Football Confederation (AFC)	Zhang Jilong
International Paralympic Committee (IPC)	Philip Craven

List of important International organizations and their heads. It is very important for banking exams.

Sr	Head	Organization
1.	David Richardson	CEO of ICC
2.	Hassan Malik	Chairman, SAARC
3.	Anil Kumble	Chairman, ICC Cricket Committee

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4.	Christine Lagarde	Managing Director, International Monetary Fund
5.	Irina Bokova	Director General, UNESCO
6.	Mukhira Kituyi	Secretary General, UNCTAD
7.	Peter Tomka	President, International Court of Justice
8.	Takehiko Nakao	President, Asian Development Bank
9.	Kamlesh Sharma	Secretary General, Commonwealth
10.	Roberto Azevedo	Director General, WTO
11.	N. Srinivasan	President, International Cricket Council
12.	Jim Yong Kim	President World Bank
13.	Yukia Amano	Director General, International Atomic Energy Agency
14.	Jan Eliasson	First Dy. Secretary General, UNO
15.	Arjun Bahadur Thapa	Secretary General, SAARC
16.	Salil Sethi	Sec. Gen, Amnesty International
17.	Helen Clerk	Director General of UNDP
18.	Klaus Schweb	Chairman, WEF (World Economic Forum)
19.	Ban Ki Moon	Secretary General, United Nation Organization
20.	Hassan Rouhani	Chairperson/Secretary Gen. of NAM
21.	Phumzile Mlambo Ngcuka	Head of UN Women
22.	Thomas Bach	President, International Olympic Committee
23.	N.Ramachandran	President, Indian Olympic Association
24.	Prince Zeid al Hussein	UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

Wild Life Sanctuaries in India

S.No.	WILD LIFE SANCTUARIES IN INDIA	LOCATION	Area
1.	Dachigam Wildlife Sanctuary	Jammu and Kashmir	141km ²
2.	Jim Corbett National Park	Uttarakhand	1318.54 km ² (including core area 520 km ² and buffer area 797.72 km ²)
3.	Sunderbans Wildlife Sanctuary	West Bengal	10,000 km ² (60% in Bangladesh and Remainder in India)
4.	Manas Wildlife Sanctuary	Assam	950 km ²
5.	Kaziranga National Park	Assam	430 km ²
6.	Ranthambore National Park	Rajasthan	392 km ²
7.	Keoladeo Bird Sanctuary / Bharatpur National Park	Rajasthan	29 km ²
8.	SasanGir National Park	Gujarat	1,412 km ²
9.	Kanha National Park	Madhya Pradesh	940 km ²
10.	Periyar Wild Life Sanctuary	Kerala	305 km ²
11.	Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	0.3 km ²
12.	Sariska National Park	Rajasthan	866 km ²

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13.	Mundanthurai Wildlife Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	895 km ²
14.	Annamalai Wildlife Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	958 km ²
15.	Campbell Bay National Park	Great Nicobar Island	426 km ²
16.	Dudhwa National Park	Uttar Pradesh	490.3 km ²
17.	Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve	Uttrakhand	630.33 km ²
18.	Hemis National Park	Jammu & Kashmir	4,400 km ²
19.	Bandhavgarh National Park	Madhya Pradesh	446 km ²
20.	Pench National Park	Madhya Pradesh	257 km ²
21.	Kanchendzonga National Park	Sikkim	1,784 km ²
22.	Bandipur National Park	Karnataka	874 km ²
23.	Wandur National Park/ Mahatama Gandhi Marine National Park	Andaman Island	281.5 km ²
24.	Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary	Karnataka	866.41 km ²
25.	Valley Of Flowers National Park	Uttarakhand	87.50 km ²
26.	Panna National Park	Madhya Pradesh	542.67 km ²
27.	Balpakram National Park	Meghalaya	200 km ²
28.	Similipal National Park	Orrisa	2,750 km ²
29.	Kudremukh National Park	Karnataka	600.32 km ²
30.	Eravikulam National Park	Kerala	97 km ²
31.	Bannerghatta National Park	Karnataka	104. 3 km ²
32.	Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary	Kerala	90.44 km ²
33.	DibruSaikhowa Wildlife Sanctuary	Assam	350 km ²
34.	National Chambal Sanctuary	Rajasthan	5,400 km ²
35.	Orang National Park	Assam	78.81 km ²
36.	Nameri National Park	Assam	200 km ²
37.	Gorumara National Park	West Bengal	80 km ²
38.	Nokrek National Park	Meghalaya	47.48 km ²
39.	Namdapha National Park	Arunachal Pradesh	1,985 km ²
40.	Gulf Of Kutch National Park	Gujarat	162.9 km ²
41.	Silent Valley National Park	Kerala	236.74 km ²
42.	Gulf Of Mannar Marine National Park	Tamil Nadu	560 km ²
43.	Betla National Park	Jharkhand	979 km ² approx.
44.	Desert National Park	Rajasthan	3,162 km ²
45.	Harike Wetland	Panjab	41 km ²
46.	South Button Island National Park	Andaman Islands	5 km ²
47.	Eturnagaram Wildlife Sanctuary	Telangana	812 km ²
48.	Bhimbandh Wildlife Sanctuary	Bihar	681.99 km ²
49.	Palamau Tiger Reserve	Jharkhand	1,026 km ²
50.	Mudumalai National Park	Tamil Nadu	321 km ²
51.	Galathea National Park	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	110 km ²

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52.	Middle Button Island National Park	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	64 km ²
53.	Interview Island Wildlife Sanctuary	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	133 km ² approx.
54.	Landfall Island Wildlife Sanctuary	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	29.28 km ²
55.	Nagarjunsagar-Srisailem Tiger Reserve	Andhra Pradesh	3,568 km ²
56.	Koundinya Wildlife Sanctuary	Andhra Pradesh	357.6 km ²
57.	Pulicat Lake Bird Sanctuary	At the border of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu	481 km ²
58.	Pocharam Forest & Wildlife Sanctuary	Telangana	130 km ²
59.	Pakhui Tiger Reserve	Arunachal Pradesh	862 km ²
60.	Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary	Arunachal Pradesh	218 km ²
61.	Hoollongapar Gibbon Sanctuary	Assam	20.99 km ²
62.	Pong Dam Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh	475 km ²
63.	Sharavathi Valley Wildlife Sanctuary	Karnataka	431 km ²
64.	Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary	Madhya Pradesh	1,197 km ²
65.	Gangotri National Park	Uttarakhand	2,390 km ²
66.	Palani Hills Wildlife Sanctuary and National Park	Tamil Nadu	737 km ²
67.	Rajaji National Park	Uttarakhand	820 km ²
68.	Nagarahole National Park	Karnataka	642.39 km ²
69.	TadobaAndhari Tiger Reserve	Maharashtra	625.4 km ²
70.	Papikonda National Park	Andhra Pradesh	1,012.86 km ²
71.	Valmiki National Park	Bihar	Forest area is about 900km ² out of which the ValmikiSanctuary is 880km ² and spread of the National Park is about 335km ²
72.	Pakhal Wildlife Sanctuary	Telangana	860 km ²
73.	Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary	Telangana	635.40km ²
74.	Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary	Bihar	1,342 km ²
75.	Changtang Wildlife Sanctuary	Jammu & Kashmir	4,000 km ²
76.	Sathyamangalam Wildlife Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	1,411.6 km ²
77.	Askot Musk Deer Sanctuary	Uttarakhand	599.93 km ²
78.	Dibang Wildlife Sanctuary	Arunachal Pradesh	4,149 km ²
79.	SonaiRupai Wildlife Sanctuary	Assam	175 km ²
80.	Achanakmar Wildlife Sanctuary	Chhattisgarh	551.55 km ²
81.	Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary	Gujarat	607.70 km ²
82.	Indian Wild Ass Sanctuary	Gujarat	4,954 km ²
83.	Narayan Sarovar Sanctuary	Gujarat	444.23 km ²

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84.	BiligirirangaSwamy Temple Wildlife Sanctuary	Karnataka	540 km ²
85.	Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary	Karnataka	526.96 km ²
86.	Ratapani Tiger Reserve	Madhya Pradesh	688 km ²
87.	TamorPingla Wildlife Sanctuary	Chhattisgarh	608.55 km ²
88.	Bhadra Wildlife Sanctuary	Karnataka	492.46 km ²
89.	Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary	Kerala	285 km ²
90.	Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary	Maharashtra	423.55 km ²
91.	GautalaAutramghat Sanctuary	Maharashtra	260 km ²
92.	Nalbana Bird Sanctuary	Orissa	15.53 km ²
93.	Sita Mata Wildlife Sanctuary	Rajasthan	422.95 km ²
94.	Shenbagathoppu Grizzled Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	480 km ²
95.	VikramshilaGangetic Dolphin Sanctuary	Bihar	50 km stretch of Ganges River
96.	Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve	Madhya Pradesh	4926.28km ²

Power Plants

S.No.	Name	Electricity Generation Capacity (in KW)	Location
1.	MUNDRA POWER PLANT	4,620 MW	GUJARAT
2.	VINDHYACHAL THERMAL POWER STATION, MADHYA PRADESH	4,760 MW	MADHYA PRADESH
3.	MUNDRA ULTRA MEGA POWER PLANT	4,000 MW	GUJARAT
4.	TALCHER SUPER THERMAL POWER STATION, ODISHA	3,000 MW	ODISHA
5.	SIPAT THERMAL POWER PLANT, CHHATTISGARH	2,980 MW	CHHATTISGARH
6.	NTPC DADRI, UTTAR PRADESH	1,820 MW (COAL) AND 817 MW (GAS)	UTTAR PRADESH
7.	NTPC RAMAGUNDAM, ANDHRA PRADESH	2,600 MW	TELANGANA
8.	KORBA SUPER THERMAL POWER PLANT, CHATTISGARH	2,600 MW	CHHATTISGARH
9.	RIHAND THERMAL POWER STATION, UTTAR PRADESH	3,000 MW	UTTAR PRADESH
10.	JHARSUGUDA THERMAL POWER PLANT, ODISHA	2,400 MW	ODISHA

S. NO.	DAMS	POWER GENERATION CAPACITY (in MW)	HEIGHT	STATE
1.	Bhakra Dam	1,325 MW	740 Ft.	Himachal Pradesh
2.	Baglihar Dam	900 MW	472 Ft.	Jammu & Kashmir
3.	Tehri Dam	2,400 MW	855 Ft.	Uttarakhand
4.	NagarjunaSagar Dam	816 MW	407 Ft.	Telangana, Andhra

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				Pradesh
5.	Bansagar Dam	425 MW	220 Ft.	Madhya Pradesh
6.	Hirakud Dam	347.5 MW	200 Ft.	Orissa
7.	SardarSarovar Dam	1,450 MW	535 Ft.	Gujarat
8.	Indirasagar Dam	1,000 MW	302 Ft.	Madhya Pradesh
9.	Bhavanisagar Dam	1,920 MW	105 Ft.	Tamil Nadu
10.	Idukki Dam	780 MW	554 Ft.	Kerala
11.	Mettur Dam	840 MW	120 Ft.	Tamil Nadu
12.	Srisaillam Dam	1,670 MW	476 Ft.	Telangana, Andhra Pradesh
13.	Koyna Dam	1,960 MW	339 Ft.	Maharashtra
14.	Tungabhadra Dam	72 MW	162 Ft.	Karnataka
15.	Mullaperiyar Dam	175 MW	176 Ft.	Tamil Nadu
16.	Pong Dam	396 MW	436 Ft.	Himachal Pradesh
17.	Nathpa Dam	1,500 MW	205 Ft.	Shimla, Himachal Pradesh
18.	RanaPratapSagar Dam	172 MW	177 Ft.	Rajasthan
19.	Chamera Dam	1071 MW	741 Ft.	Himachal Pradesh
	First Phase	540 MW		
	Second Phase	300 MW		
	Third Phase	231 MW		
20.	Ranjit Dam	60 MW	148 Ft.	Sikkim

S. No.	STADIUM NAME	LOCATION	SPORT GAME ATTACHED
1.	Wankhede Stadium	Mumbai, Maharashtra	Cricket
2.	HPCA STADIUM	DHARAMSHALA, HIMACHAL PRADESH	Cricket
3.	Feroz Shah Kotla Ground	Delhi	Cricket
4.	M.A. Chidambaram Stadium	Chennai, Tamil Nadu	Cricket
5.	Eden Gardens	Kolkata, West Bengal	Cricket
6.	Gymkhana Ground	Mumbai, Maharashtra	Cricket
7.	Jsca Stadium	Ranchi, Jharkhand	Cricket
8.	Khanderi Cricket Stadium	Rajkot, Gujarat	Cricket
9.	Subrata Roy Sahara Stadium	Pune, Maharashtra	Cricket
10.	Dr. D.Y. Patil Stadium	Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra	Football And Cricket
11.	New Vca Stadium	Nagpur, Maharashtra	Cricket
12.	Maharani Usharaje Trust Cricket Ground	Indore, Madhya Pradesh	Cricket
13.	Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium	Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh	Cricket
14.	Apca-Vdca Stadium	Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	Cricket
15.	Indira Gandhi Stadium	Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh	Cricket
16.	Barkatullah Khan Stadium	Jodhpur, Rajasthan	Mostly Used For Cricket
17.	Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium	Kochi, Kerala	Multipurpose
18.	Ipcl Sports Complex Ground	Vadodara, Gujarat	Cricket

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19.	K. D. Singh Babu Stadium	Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh	Multipurpose
20.	Fatorda Stadium	Margao, Goa	Football & Cricket
21.	Maulana Azad Stadium	Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir	Cricket
22.	Indira Priyadarshini Stadium	Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	Cricket
23.	Roop Singh Stadium	Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh	Cricket
24.	Nahar Singh Stadium	Faridabad, Haryana	Cricket
25.	Madhavrao Scindia Cricket Ground	Rajkot, Gujarat	Cricket
26.	Sector 16 Stadium	Chandigarh	Cricket
27.	Nehru Stadium	Pune, Maharashtra	Cricket (Multipurpose)
28.	University Stadium	Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala	Football (Multipurpose)
29.	Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium	Delhi	Multipurpose
	Keenan Stadium	Jamshedpur, Jharkhand	Cricket And Football
	Sardar Patel Stadium	Ahmedabad, Gujarat	Cricket
	MotiBagh Stadium	Vadodara, Gujarat	
	Sher-I-Kashmir Stadium	Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir	Cricket
	SawaiMansingh Stadium	Jaipur, Rajasthan	Cricket
	Gandhi Sports Complex Ground	Amritsar, Punjab	Currently Used For Cricket
	Barabati Stadium	Cuttack, Orissa	Cricket
	M. Chinnaswamy Stadium	Bangalore, Karnataka	Cricket
	Vca Ground	Nagpur, Maharashtra	Cricket
	LalBahadurShastri Stadium	Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh	Cricket
	Green Park Stadium	Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh	Cricket
	Brabourne Stadium	Mumbai, Maharashtra	Cricket
	Guru Gobind Singh Stadium	Nanded, Maharashtra	Cricket
	Fort Maidan	Palakkad, Kerala	Football
	DilipTirkey Stadium	Ranchi, Jharkhand	Hockey
	BirsaMunda Stadium	Ranchi, Jharkhand	Hockey
	Kalinga Stadium	Bhubaneswar, Odisha	Hockey
	Mahindra Stadium	Mumbai, Maharashtra	Hockey
	Dhyan Chand Astroturf	Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh	Hockey
	DadajiKondadev Stadium	Thane, Maharashtra	Football
	Guru Nanak Stadium	Ludhiana, Punjab	Football

S. No.	NAME OF RIVERS	TOUCHING STATES	LENGTH
1.	GANGA	Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal	AROUND 2,525 K.M.
2.	YAMUNA	Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana	1,376 K.M.
3.	BRAHMAPUTRA	Assam, Arunachal, Tibet	2,900 K.M.
4.	MAHANADI	Chhattisgarh, Odisha	858 K.M.
5.	GODAVARI	Maharashtra, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Puducherry	1,465 K.M.
6.	KRISHNA	Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh	1,400 K.M.
7.	NARMADA	Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra,	1,315 K.M.

		Gujarat	
8.	TAPTI	Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat	724 K.M.
9.	GOMTI	Lucknow	900 K.M.
10.	GANDAK	Bihar	320 K.M.
11.	KOSI	Bihar	720 K.M.
12.	SON	Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Bihar	784 K.M.
13.	BETWA	Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh	590 K.M.
14.	CHAMBAL	Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan	960 K.M.
15.	SUTLEJ	Panjab	1,500 K.M.
16.	RAVI	Himachal, Panjab	720 K.M.
17.	BEAS	Himachal, Panjab	470 K.M.
18.	CHENAB	Himachal, Panjab	960 K.M.
19.	JEHLAM	Panjab	725 K.M.
20.	KAVERI	Tamil Nadu	765 K.M.
21.	MAHANADI	Odisha	858 K.M.

Indian Cities on the Bank of Important Rivers

Town	River
Agra	Yamuna
Ahmedabad	Sabarmati
Allahabad	Ganga, Yamuna
Ayodhya	Saryu
Badarinath	Ganga
Calcutta	Hooghly
Cuttack	Mahanadi
Delhi	Yamuna
Dibrugarh	Brahmaputra
Ferozepur	Sutlej
Gauhati	Brahmaputra
Haridwar	Ganga
Hyderabad	Musi
Jabalpur	Narmada
Kanpur	Ganga
Kota	Chambal
Leh	Indus
Lucknow	Gomti
Ludhiana	Sutlej
Nasik	Godavari

Panchiharpur	Bhima
Patna	Ganges
Srinagar	Jhelum
Surat	Tapti
Tiruchirapalli	Cauvery
Varanasi	Ganga
Vijayawada	Krishna

Important Cities of the world on the bank of Important Rivers

Rivers of Major World Cities

City	Country	River
Alexandria	Egypt	Nile
Amsterdam	Netherlands	Amstel
Baghdad	Iraq	Tigris
Bangkok	Thailand	Chao Phraya
Belgrade	Yugoslavia	Danube, Sava
Berlin	Germany	Spree, Havel
Bogotá	Colombia	Bogotá
Brussels	Belgium	Senne
Budapest	Hungary	Danube
Buenos Aires	Argentina	Río de la Plata
Cairo	Egypt	Nile
Calcutta	India	Hugli
Damascus	Syria	Barada
Delhi	India	Yamuna
Dublin	Ireland	Liffey
Ho Chi Minh City	Vietnam	Saigon
Hong Kong	China	Pearl
Jakarta	Indonesia	Liwung
Kiev	Ukraine	Dnieper
Lisbon	Portugal	Tagus
Lima	Peru	Rímac
London	England	Thames
Madrid	Spain	Manzanares

Melbourne	Australia	Yarra
Montreal	Canada	St. Lawrence
Moscow	Russia	Moskva
Paris	France	Seine
Prague	Czech Republic	Moldau
Rome	Italy	Tiber
Saint Petersburg	Russia	Neva
Santiago	Chile	Mapocho
São Paulo	Brazil	Tietê
Seoul	South Korea	Han
Shanghai	China	Huangpu
Tokyo	Japan	Sumida
Vienna	Austria	Danube
Warsaw	Poland	Vistula
Zagreb	Croatia	Sava
Zürich	Switzerland	Limmat, Sihl

List of national parks of India

Name	State	Established	Area (in km ²)	Notability
<u>Balphakram National Park</u>	<u>Meghalaya</u>	2013	220	wild water buffalo, red panda, elephant and eight cat species, including the tiger and marbled cat
<u>Bandhavgarh National Park</u>	<u>Madhya Pradesh</u>	1968	446	highest known Tiger population in India, <u>White Tiger</u> , 1336 species of endemic plants
<u>Bandipur National Park</u>	<u>Karnataka</u>	1974	874.20	<u>chital</u> , <u>gray langurs</u> , <u>Indian giant squirrel</u> , <u>Gaur</u> , <u>leopard</u> , <u>Sambar deer</u> , <u>Indian elephants</u> , <u>honey buzzard</u> , <u>red-headed vulture</u> and other animals.
<u>Bannerghatta National Park (Bannerghatta Biological Park)</u>	<u>Karnataka</u>	1974	106.27	<u>White Tiger</u> , <u>Royal Bengal Tiger</u> , <u>Bear</u> , other <u>animals</u>
<u>Betla National Park</u>	<u>Jharkhand</u>	1986	231.67	<u>Tiger</u> , <u>Sloth</u>

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Name	State	Established	Area (in km ²)	Notability
				<u>Bear, Peacock, Elephant, Sambar deer, mouse deer</u> and other animals.
<u>Bhitarkanika National Park</u>	<u>Odisha</u>	1988	145	<u>Mangroves,</u> Saltwater crocodile, white crocodile, Indian python, black ibis, wild pigs, rhesus monkeys, <u>chital</u> and other animals
<u>Blackbuck National Park, Velavadar</u>	<u>Gujarat</u>	1976	34.08	hunting <u>cheetahs</u> Blackbuck Lodge, the endangered Indian Grey Wolf, the nocturnal Striped Hyena, Indian Fox, Golden Jackal, Jungle Cat and many small mammals like hare, gerbil, field mice, mongoose and hedgehog
<u>Buxa Tiger Reserve</u>	<u>West Bengal</u>	1992	760	
<u>Campbell Bay National Park</u>	<u>Andaman and Nicobar Islands</u>	1992	426.23	
<u>Chandoli National Park</u>	<u>Maharashtra</u>	2004	317.67	
<u>Dachigam National Park</u>	<u>Jammu and Kashmir</u>	1981	141	Only area where <u>Kashmir stag</u> is found[1]
<u>Darrah National Park</u>	<u>Rajasthan</u>	2004	250	
<u>Desert National Park</u>	<u>Rajasthan</u>	1980	3162	
<u>Dibru-Saikhowa National Park</u>	<u>Assam</u>	1999	340	
<u>Dudhwa National Park</u>	<u>Uttar Pradesh</u>	1977	490.29	
<u>Eravikulam National Park</u>	<u>Kerala</u>	1978	97	
<u>Galathea National Park</u>	<u>Andaman and Nicobar Islands</u>	1992	110	
<u>Gangotri National Park</u>	<u>Uttarakhand</u>	1989	1552.73	
<u>Gir Forest National Park</u>	<u>Gujarat</u>	1965	258.71	<u>Asiatic lion</u>
<u>Gorumara National Park</u>	<u>West Bengal</u>	1994	79.45	
<u>Govind Pashu Vihar Wildlife Sanctuary</u>	<u>Uttarakhand</u>	1990	472.08	

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Name	State	Established	Area (in km ²)	Notability
<u>Great Himalayan National Park</u>	<u>Himachal Pradesh,</u>	1984	754.40	<u>UNESCO World Heritage Site</u>
<u>Gugamal National Park</u>	<u>Maharashtra</u>	1987	361.28	
<u>Guindy National Park</u>	<u>Tamil Nadu</u>	1976	2.82	
<u>Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park</u>	<u>Tamil Nadu</u>	1980	6.23	
<u>Hemis National Park</u>	<u>Jammu and Kashmir</u>	1981	4400	
<u>Harike Wetland</u>	<u>Punjab</u>	1987	86	
<u>Hazaribagh National Park</u>	<u>Jharkhand</u>	1954	183.89	
<u>Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary and National Park</u>	<u>Tamil Nadu</u>	1989	117.10	
<u>Indravati National Park</u>	<u>Chhattisgarh</u>	1981	1258.37	<u>Wild Asian Buffalo, Tiger Reserve, Hill Mynas</u>
<u>Jaldapara National Park</u>	<u>West Bengal</u>	2012	216	<u>indian one horned rhinoceros</u>
<u>Jim Corbett National Park</u>	<u>Uttarakhand</u>	1936	1318.5	
<u>Kalesar National Park</u>	<u>Haryana</u>	2003	100.88	
<u>Kanha National Park</u>	<u>Madhya Pradesh</u>	1955	940	
<u>Kanger Ghati National Park</u>	<u>Chhattisgarh</u>	1982	200	
<u>Kasu Brahmananda Reddy National Park</u>	<u>Telangana</u>	1994	1.42	
<u>Kaziranga National Park</u>	<u>Assam</u>	1905	471.71	<u>Indian rhinoceros, UNESCO World Heritage Site</u>
<u>Keibul Lamjao National Park</u>	<u>Manipur</u>	1977	40	only floating park in the world
<u>Keoladeo National Park</u>	<u>Rajasthan</u>	1981	28.73	<u>UNESCO World Heritage Site</u>
<u>Khangchendzonga National Park</u>	<u>Sikkim</u>	1977	1784	
<u>Kishtwar National Park</u>	<u>Jammu and Kashmir</u>	1981	400	

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Name	State	Established	Area (in km ²)	Notability
<u>Kudremukh National Park</u>	<u>Karnataka</u>	1987	600.32	
<u>Madhav National Park</u>	<u>Madhya Pradesh</u>	1959	375.22	
<u>Mahatma Gandhi Marine National Park</u>	<u>Andaman and Nicobar Islands</u>	1983	281.50	
<u>Mahavir Harina Vanasthali National Park</u>	<u>Telangana</u>	1994	14.59	
<u>Manas National Park</u>	<u>Assam</u>	1990	500	<u>UNESCO World Heritage Site</u>
<u>Mandla Plant Fossils National Park</u>	<u>Madhya Pradesh</u>	1983	0.27	
<u>Marine National Park, Gulf of Kutch</u>	<u>Gujarat</u>	1980	162.89	
<u>Mathikettan Shola National Park</u>	<u>Kerala</u>	2003	12.82	
<u>Middle Button Island National Park</u>	<u>Andaman and Nicobar Islands</u>	1987	0.64	
<u>Mollem National Park</u>	<u>Goa</u>	1978	107	
<u>Mouling National Park</u>	<u>Arunachal Pradesh</u>	1986	483	
<u>Mount Abu Wildlife Sanctuary</u>	<u>Rajasthan</u>	1960	288.84	
<u>Mount Harriet National Park</u>	<u>Andaman and Nicobar Islands</u>		46.62	important bird area as attributed by <u>BirdLife International</u> , new species frog named Rana CharlesDarwini
<u>Mrugavani National Park</u>	<u>Telangana</u>		9.1	
<u>Mudumalai National Park</u>	<u>Tamil Nadu</u>	1940	321.55	
<u>Mukurthi National Park</u>	<u>Tamil Nadu</u>	2001	78.46	<u>Nilgiri Tahr</u>
<u>Murlen National Park</u>	<u>Mizoram</u>		200	
<u>Namdapha National Park</u>	<u>Arunachal Pradesh</u>	1974	1985.24	
<u>Nameri National</u>	<u>Assam</u>	1978	137.07	

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Name	State	Established	Area (in km ²)	Notability
<u>Park</u>				
<u>Nanda Devi National Park</u>	<u>Uttarakhand</u>	1982	630.33	<u>UNESCO World Heritage Site</u>
<u>Nandankanan Zoological Park</u>	<u>Odisha</u>	1960	4.006	
<u>Navegaon National Park</u>	<u>Maharashtra</u>		133.88	
<u>Neora Valley National Park</u>	<u>West Bengal</u>	1986	88	
<u>Nokrek National Park</u>	<u>Meghalaya</u>		47.48	<u>UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve</u>
<u>North Button Island National Park</u>	<u>Andaman and Nicobar Islands</u>	1979	144	
<u>Ntangki National Park</u>	<u>Nagaland</u>	1993	202.02	
<u>Orang National Park</u>	<u>Assam</u>	1999	78.81	
<u>Palani Hills National Park</u>	<u>Tamil Nadu</u>		736.87	
<u>Panna National Park</u>	<u>Madhya Pradesh</u>	1981	542.67	
<u>Papikonda National Park</u>	<u>Andhra Pradesh</u>	2008	1012.85	
<u>Pench National Park</u>	<u>Madhya Pradesh</u>	1977	758	
<u>Periyar National Park</u>	<u>Kerala</u>	1982	305	
<u>Phawngpui Blue Mountain National Park</u>	<u>Mizoram</u>	1992	50	
<u>Pin Valley National Park</u>	<u>Himachal Pradesh</u>	1987	807.36	
<u>Rajaji National Park</u>	<u>Uttarakhand</u>	1983	820	
<u>Nagarhole National Park</u>	<u>Karnataka</u>	1988	643.39	
<u>Rani Jhansi Marine National Park</u>	<u>Andaman and Nicobar Islands</u>	1996	256.14	
<u>Ranthambore National Park</u>	<u>Rajasthan</u>	1981	392	
<u>Saddle Peak</u>	<u>Andaman</u>	1979	32.55	

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Name	State	Established	Area (in km ²)	Notability
<u>National Park</u>	<u>and Nicobar Islands</u>			
<u>Salim Ali National Park</u>	<u>Jammu and Kashmir</u>		9.07	
<u>Sanjay National Park²</u>	<u>Madhya Pradesh</u>	1981	466.7	
<u>Sanjay Gandhi National Park</u>	<u>Maharashtra</u>	1969	104	
<u>Sariska Tiger Reserve</u>	<u>Rajasthan</u>	1955	866	
<u>Satpura National Park</u>	<u>Madhya Pradesh</u>	1981	524	
<u>Silent Valley National Park</u>	<u>Kerala</u>	1980	237	
<u>Sirohi National Park</u>	<u>Manipur</u>	1982	41.30	
<u>Simlipal National Park</u>	<u>Odisha</u>	1980	845.70	Tiger, Leopard, Asian elephant, Sambar, Barking deer, Gaur, Jungle cat, Wild boar, and other animals.
<u>Singalila National Park</u>	<u>West Bengal</u>	1986	78.60	
<u>South Button Island National Park</u>	<u>Andaman and Nicobar Islands</u>		5	Dugong, Dolphin, Water Monitor Lizard, Blue Whale
<u>Sri Venkateswara National Park</u>	<u>Andhra Pradesh</u>	1989	353	
<u>Sultanpur National Park</u>	<u>Haryana</u>	1989	1.43	
<u>Sundarbans National Park</u>	<u>West Bengal</u>	1984	1330.12	<u>UNESCO World Heritage Site</u>
<u>Tadoba National Park</u>	<u>Maharashtra</u>	1955	625	
<u>Valley of Flowers National Park</u>	<u>Uttarakhand</u>	1982	87.50	
<u>Valmiki National Park</u>	<u>Bihar</u>	1976	898.45	
<u>Vansda National Park</u>	<u>Gujarat</u>	1979	23.99	
<u>Van Vihar National Park</u>	<u>Madhya Pradesh</u>	1983	4.45	

Important Airports

Airport	City	State/Union Territory
Veer Savarkar International Airport	Port Blair	Andaman and Nicobar Islands
<u>Visakhapatnam Airport</u>	Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh
Rajiv Gandhi International Airport	Hyderabad	Telangana
Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport	Guwahati	Assam
Indira Gandhi International Airport	New Delhi	Delhi
Goa International Airport	whole state	Goa
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport	Ahmedabad	Gujarat
Kempegowda International Airport	Bengaluru	Karnataka
Mangalore International Airport	Mangalore	Karnataka
<u>Cochin International Airport</u>	Kochi	Kerala
Calicut International Airport	Kozhikode	Kerala
Trivandrum International Airport	Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala
<u>Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport</u>	Mumbai	Maharashtra
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport	Nagpur	Maharashtra
Tulihal Airport	Imphal	Manipur
Biju Patnaik International Airport	Bhubaneswar	Odisha
Sri Guru Ram Dass Jee International Airport	Amritsar	Punjab
Jaipur International Airport	Jaipur	Rajasthan
Chennai International Airport	Chennai	Tamil Nadu
Coimbatore International Airport	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
Tiruchirapalli International Airport	Tiruchirapalli	Tamil Nadu
Chaudhary Charan Singh Airport	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh
Lal Bahadur Shastri Airport	Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh
Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport	Kolkata	West Bengal

IMPORTANT TEMPLES OF INDIA

1. Badrinath Temple

Situated close to the Alaknanda River, the abode of Lord Badrinath is located in the Chamoli district, a small town of Badrinath (Uttarakhand). This holy shrine of Lord Vishnu forms a part of the four holiest sites (Char Dhams) in Hindu religion.

It is also one of the four Chota Char Dham pilgrimage sites (comparatively minor pilgrimage sites). It is one of the 108 temples dedicated to Lord Vishnu (Divya Desams), which find mention in the works of Tamil saints who existed from 6th to 9th century.

The ancient abode of Lord Vishnu can be visited only between April to November as in the rest of the months the weather is too harsh for undertaking a pilgrimage journey. Two of the famous festivals related to the temple are –

Mata Murti-Ka-Mela – in which the mother of Lord Badrinath is worshipped and it takes place in the month of September.

Badri-Kedar Festival – extending to 8 days, it takes place in the month of June and is celebrated in both the temples of Badrinath and Kedarnath.

2. The Kon Sun Temple

The Sun temple is situated in the small town of Konark, which is situated in the Puri district of Odisha. This marvel of architecture is dedicated to Lord Sun. And resembling his carriage, the temple has been built in the shape of a chariot, which has twelve wheels and is shown as being dragged by the seven horses.

The temple is believed to be constructed in the 13th century by a king called Narasimhadeva. Like with most things in India, this temple too has connections with a few legends. As per one of the legends, God Krishna cursed, one of his own sons with leprosy. To seek penance, Samba worshiped Lord Sun (Surya) for a period of twelve years. Pleased with his devotion, Surya healed him. Samba made the Sun temple in return to express his gratitude.

The mesmerizing beauty of the place was best summed up by the Rabindranath Tagore through these words: 'Here the language of stone surpasses the language of man.'

3. Brihadeeswara Temple

Also known as Peruvudaiyar Kovil and RajaRajeswaram, this 11th century temple was built by the Chola emperor Raja Raja Chola I. Dedicated to Lord Shiva, Brihadeeswara temple is the largest temple in India that is situated at Thanjavur city of Tamil Nadu.

Cholas are known for their majestic and splendid scale of structures. The opulence and artistic proficiency of Cholas is well reflected in the grand and magnificent architecture of the temple. Made entirely of granite stone, it was built as per the principles of Vaastu Shastras and Agamas.

The most remarkable thing related to the architecture of this UNESCO World Heritage Site is that it doesn't leave any shadow on the ground at the noon time. The millenary celebrations of its construction took place in 2010 amid many enthusiastic and grand cultural events.

4. Somnath Temple

This is one of the oldest pilgrimage centres in India and finds mention in the ancient books, like Shivpuran, Skandpuran and Shreemad Bhagvat. Som refers to the 'Moon God', thus Somnath means 'Protector of the Moon God'. According to a legend, Som got the temple built in the honor of Lord Shiva as it was Shiva who cured the illness, which was inflicted on him due to his father-in-law's curse.

It is one of the most revered 'jyotirlingas' among the 12 existing jyotirlingas of India. The temple is located in Prabhas Kshetra in Saurashtra (Gujarat). Prabhas Kshetra is also the region in which, it is believed that, Lord Krishna left his mortal body.

Another interesting thing about the place is that it is built on the shore of Arabian Sea and in between the temple and the South Pole, in a straight line there is no land area. Somnath temple was destroyed and re-built many times. The place also has a Somnath museum, Junagadh gate, beach and a sound and light show to amuse the pilgrims.

5. Kedarnath Temple

Situated in the Himalayan range of Garhwal area (Uttarakhand), Kedarnath temple is one of the most sacred Shiva temples in the world. This holy abode of Shiva is said to be built by the Pandavas to atone for their sins committed during their battle with Kauravs.

The temple was restored by Adi Sankaracharya in 8th century. It is one of the Chota Char Dhams of Uttarakhand and requires a pilgrim to walk a distance of 14 kms over the hilly surface. One can make use of a pony or manchan to simplify the journey.

Surrounded by the glaciers and snow-covered peaks and standing at a height of 3,583 m, the temple is closed during winters due to severe cold conditions. Even the idol of Lord Shiva is shifted to Ukhimath and worshiped there throughout the 5/6 months for which the extreme conditions prevail.

6. Sanchi Stupa

Sanchi is a village in the Raisen district of Madhya Pradesh, which is a home to several Buddhist structures built in between 3rd century BC to 12th century AD. The most significant of them all is the Sanchi Stupa, also known as the Great Stupa. A Stupa is a holy place of Buddhist, which is built in the shape of a dome that consists of relics of Buddha.

A UNESCO World Heritage Site this famous pilgrimage site in India was built by the great emperor Asoka in the 3rd century BC. There are four intricately designed gateways surrounding the Stupa known as Toranas, each individually symbolizing the four emotions of love, peace, courage and trust. The Great Stupa is 16 meters high and 37 meters in diameter and preserves the relics of Buddha.

7. Ramanathaswamy (Rameshwaram) Temple

Rameshwaram (or Rameswaram) is a small island town in Tamil Nadu and is one of the four holiest pilgrimage places (Char Dhams) of the Hindus.

The reason for its being so sacred is the belief that Lord Rama along with his wife Sita first landed on its shore after defeating the demon Ravana (who was also a Brahmin). To seek atonement for killing a Brahmin, Rama wanted to pray to Shiva. Hanuman was sent off to Kailash to bring an idol of the God. In the mean time, Sita made a small lingam. The one made by Sita is called Ramalingam and one brought by Hanuman is called Vishwalingam.

As per the instructions of Lord Rama, Vishwalingam is worshiped before the Ramalingam, even today.

8. Vaishno Devi Mandir

After a trek of about 12 km from Katra (base camp), one reaches the holy cave, which is the abode of Maa (mother) Vaishno Devi and is located at an altitude of 5200 ft in a mountain called Trikuta. It is situated in Jammu and Kashmir, near Katra town.

Vaishno Devi is present here in the form of three rock heads, called the Pindies, instead of a statue. Due to the strong faith of the people, every year millions of them come to take the blessings of Maa Vaishno Devi. It is said that it is Maa Vaishno who decides her visitors. It is she who calls her devotees to her doorsteps. Anyone making a successful journey to her shrine is there because of her wish. The shrine is open all year round.

9. Siddhivinayak Temple

Located in Prabha Devi, Mumbai, Siddhivinayak Temple was built in the 18th century. Siddhivinayak or Lord Ganesha is the supreme deity of the temple and is famous for being the first one to be worshipped before commencing any new work or assignment. That is why he is also known as Vighnaharta (the terminator of impediments).

On the wooden doors of the shrine eight impressions of Lord Ganapati (Ashtavinayak) are carved. Siddhivinayak temple consists of one of the eight images of the God. Other distinct images are spread over seven temples situated in Maharashtra. The temple is visited by the devotees all days of the year but Tuesday is the day when maximum numbers of people come to pray to the Lord for good luck.

10. Gangotri Temple

The sacred origin of Ganga Maa (mother) is worshipped at Gangotri temple, which is situated in the Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand. A partially submerged Shivaling lying along the temple in the waters of Bhagirathi signifies the place where God Shiva entangled Ganga in his hair. Built in the 18th century the temple is made from the white granite.

The holy temple of Gangotri opens up on Akshaya Tithiya (usually falling in the months of April or May). On this occasion, an idol of Ganga Maa is brought back from the Mukhyamath temple (her winter abode), which is at a distance of 20 km. On Diwali, every year, Maa Ganga again travels back to the Mukhyamath temple.

11. Golden Temple

Sri Harmandir Sahib (also known Darbar Sahib or Golden temple) is the most pious pilgrimage place for Sikhs. The temple was built on the values of universal brotherhood and equality.

The four doors, opening in the four prominent directions, openly welcome people from any faith or race to seek religious and spiritual contentment. The structure, revered for its superb architecture, is built on a level lower than that of the immediate surroundings, symbolizing the value of humility.

The holy scripture of Sikhs, Guru Granth Sahib, was first placed in Sri Harmandir Sahib after its compilation and first Granthi (or head priest) of this Sikh pilgrimage centre in India, was Baba Buddha ji.

12. Kashi Vishwanath Temple

Located in the ancient and holy city of Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh), Kashi Vishwanath temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva, also referred to as Vishwanath or Vishweshwara, meaning emperor of the universe. The city of Varanasi is also known as Kashi that is why the temple is famously called Kashi Vishwanath temple.

The distinguished temple has been visited by many great holy men like Swami Vivekanand, Adi Shankaracharya, Goswami Tulsidas and Gurunanak.

The merit or the blessings received from sighting jyotirling at Kashi Vishwanath is equal to that earned from visiting the rest of the 11 jyotirlings placed at several areas in India. A visit to the sacred temple of Shiva is believed to be one of the ways through which one can attain Moksha (ultimate liberation of the soul).

13. Lord Jagannath Temple

Built in the 12th century, Jagannath temple is situated in Puri (Orissa) and is popularly called Jagannath Puri. Dedicated to Lord Krishna, the temple is one of the four holiest places (Char Dhams) of India. Inside the main temple, with the idol of Lord Krishna (Jagannath) in between, the idols of Lord Balabhadra (brother) and Goddess Subhadra (sister) are placed.

Non-Hindus cannot enter the premises of the temple. They can get a good view of this magnificent temple from the roof-top of the Raghunandan Library located just opposite to the temple. The annual and world famous Rath Yatra conducted at Puri gives a chance to get a good glimpse of the Lord Jagannath along with Balabhadra and Subhadra riding on the chariots. Thousands and thousands of people pulling the sacred chariot makes for a mesmerizing spectacle.

14. Yamunotri Temple

Yamunotri temple was built in the 19th century in the Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand and was damaged and rebuilt twice due to the damages inflicted by the natural disasters. Dedicated to Yamuna River, which is the second holiest river of India, the temple also forms the part of the four Chota Char Dham sites.

Located at the height of 3291 meters, the shrine of Mother Yamuna holds the idol of Goddess, which is built in black marble. The temple opens up on the day of Akshaya Tritiya and closes on the day after Diwali. Mother Yamuna spends the winter at a nearby village known as village Kharsali.

The area around the Yamunotri temple doesn't have any motorable roads, so it has to be reached by trekking for a few kilometers. The surroundings of the Yamunotri temple have many hot water springs to the delight of the visiting pilgrims.

15. Meenakshi Temple

This architectural wonder is situated in Madurai (Tamil Nadu) and is dedicated to Goddess Parvati (also known as Meenakshi) and her husband Lord Shiva. Madurai is the second biggest city of India and is also one of the oldest continuously populated cities of the world.

A dip in the Golden Lotus tank, situated in the temple, is considered auspicious and is usually taken before visiting the main shrine of the God and Goddess. As per a legend, the pond was created by Shiva and is even older than the temple. The temple has a hall, which consists of 985 pillars; each pillar is differently and intricately carved. The 12th century colorful temple was among the 30 nominees of the 'New Seven Wonders of the World'.

16. Amarnath Cave Temple

The holy cave of Amarnath is located at an altitude of 3,888 meters in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. Engulfed with ice-clad mountains, the cave is also covered with layers of snow most times

of the year. In the summer season, (June to August) it becomes accessible and hence opens up to receive the pilgrims.

The cave is believed to be around 5000 years old. As per a popular legend, Buta Malik (a Muslim shepherd) met a holy man who handed him a bag full of coal. On reaching home, he found that the coal has got converted into gold.

Moved by the miracle the shepherd went in search of the saintly man and instead found the sacred abode of Lord Shiva. The pilgrimage towards Amarnath consists of a 5 day trek in which the devotees brave tough and uncertain climatic conditions and walk for 40 miles (distance covers journey from: camp-holy cave-camp).

17. Lingaraja Temple

Lingaraja temple is one of the oldest and largest temples of the 'Temple City of India' – Orissa. Drenched in the architectural style typical of Kalinga, the temple doesn't only attract religious devotees but also the historians.

The idol of Lingaraj usually represents Lord Shiva, but over here it symbolizes Shiva and Vishnu. The combined form of both the Gods is referred to as Harihara.

A large lake called Bindu Sagar touches the temple from one side and is said to have healing powers. Non-Hindus are not allowed to enter the premises, thus they can see the magnificent structure from a platform outside the temple. Shivratri is the main festival of the temple.

18. TirupatiBalaji

Located in the hilly town of Tirumala (Andhra Pradesh), the temple is also known as Tirumala Venkateshwara temple. The temple is devoted to Lord Venkateshwara, who is popularly called 'Balaji' and is the incarnation of Lord Vishnu. Venkateshwara Tirupati Balaji is the second richest religious site with people offering money and gold to their Lord running into millions, each day.

The ancient temple has been visited by the rulers of many grand dynasties of Southern India. The temple celebrates many festivals, most famous among them is Brahmotsavam (also known as 'Salakata brahmotsavam'), which goes on for 9 days and witnesses a great mass of the devotees.

The laddoos (a kind of sweet), which are given in the form of prasadam in the shrine are famous around the world for their unique delectable taste. As a religious ritual, people get their heads tonsured in large numbers over here, so much so that every year about 6 million US dollars are earned through the auction of hairs.

19. Kanchipuram Temples

'The City of Thousand Temples' – Kanchipuram (Tamil Nadu) is one of the seven sacred places in India wherein the people can attain Moksha, as per the Hindu religion. Every temple in Kanchipuram is a fascinating piece of architecture. Among the most revered temples of Kanchi 3 major ones are mentioned below:

Kamakshi Amman Temple: Goddess Kamakshi is one of the manifestations of Parvati and unlike the standing poses in which we usually find her idols, the enchanting idol at Kamakshi temple is sitting in Padmasana (a yogic sitting posture).

Ekambareswarar Temple: This shrine of Lord Shiva is also the largest among all the temples of Kanchipuram. The main lingam of the Ekambareswarar temple is made of sand and is said to be built by the Goddess Parvati.

Varadaraja Perumal Temple: It is one of the 108 temples of Vishnu (Divya Desams). This temple along with the temples of Kamakshi and Ekambareswarar are collectively called Mumurtivasam (home of trio).

20. Khajuraho Temple

Khajuraho is a town in the state of Madhya Pradesh, which houses several temples built between 10th to 12th centuries. Spread across an area of 20 sq km, the monuments of the town are recognized as UNESCO World Heritage Site. The temples are built of sandstone and dedicated to the deities of Hindus and Jains.

The temples are world famous for the erotic carvings, which can be seen along other carvings depicting the activities of routine life. It is believed that there were over 75 temples in the area but right now about 20 exist. The temples have been divided into three zones – eastern, western and southern. The Western zone consists of the most famous temples; the largest temple of Khajuraho, Kandariya Mahadeva Temple, falls under this zone.

An annual Khajuraho Dance Festival, celebrating classical dance forms of India, is held against the background of Chitragupta or Vishwanath temple in the first week of February.

21. Virupaksha Temple

Built in the 7th century, the temple is famous for being a functioning temple ever since it came into the existence. Located in the village of Hampi, it is one of the most famous temples among the various other temples of Hampi. All heritage sites of Hampi have been recognized by the UNESCO.

A shrine of Shiva, Virupaksha temple is a very important religious as well as the tourist destination. The pilgrimage centre has expanded in scale over a period of time. Shiva in the form of Virupaksha is the consort of local goddess Pampa and that is why the temple is also called Pampapathi temple. Many festivals take place in the temple celebrating the engagement and wedding of the couple.

22. Akshardham Temple

Constructed on the principles of Vastu Shastra and Pancharatra Shastra, this temple is situated near the banks of Yamuna in Delhi. The Indian-ness of the temple is reflected in its resemblance with ancient Indian architecture and the spirituality that the place exudes. The principal deity of Swaminarayan faith, Lord Swaminarayan, is the central figure of Akshardham. His 11 feet high idol lies below the central dome of the temple.

The structure has been built of Rajasthani pink stone and Italian Carrara marble. The magnificent temple of Akshardham looks more stunning during the night with the beautifully set lighting arrangements. There are many ways like exhibition, movie, statues and boat ride through which the information about the history and philosophy of the Swaminarayan sect and its founder is given to the visitors. Light and music show, which takes place in the evening, is the most fascinating element of the temple.

23. Shri Digambar Jain Lal Mandir

Built during the reign of Mughal emperor Shah Jahan in 1656, Shri Digambar Jain Lal Mandir is the oldest Jain temple in Delhi. Made in the honor of the 23rd Tirthankara, Parashvanath, the temple is made in red sandstone.

Standing right across the Red Fort, the temple consists of a charitable bird hospital, which has different wards for different species, a research laboratory and an intensive care unit. The hospital came in to being in 1956 and exemplifies one of the basic principles of Jainism, which states that all living beings (no matter how small or insignificant) have a right to freedom.

24. Gomateshwara Temple

Situated in the Shravanabelagola town of Karnataka, Gomateshwara temple is dedicated to Lord Bahubali also known as Gomateshwara. Built in the 10th century it is one of the most important pilgrimage places for Jains. The statue inspires awe among people world over because of its unique structure. Standing at an enormous height of 58.8 ft the idol is carved out of a single granite rock.

This monolithic structure stands at such a great height without any external support. The base of the Bahubali idol has got inscriptions written in three different languages – Marathi, Kannada and Tamil.

The most important event occurs in the temple after every 12 years. It is called Mahamastakabhishek and is a very important festival for Jains. In which Lord Bahubali is bathed and smeared with various things like saffron paste, sugarcane, turmeric, milk and vermilion and offered various precious stones and coins (like gold and silver).

25. Ranakpur Temple

Ranakpur is a village in the Pali district of Rajasthan and falls between Udaipur and Jodhpur. One of the very famous pilgrimage sites in India, the majestic 15th century Jain temple is dedicated to Lord Adinatha. It is counted among the 5 major sacred places of Jains.

The marvelous architecture of the temple structure brought it among the list of 77 nominees at the time of determining the new Seven Wonders of the World. Completely built from light colored marble, the great structure is well supported with the help of about 1400 superbly carved pillars. The temple uses natural light of sun as the only means of illumination.

26. Shirdi Sai Baba Temple

The holy temple of Sai baba was built in 1922, in the Shirdi town of Maharashtra. Located about 296 kms from Mumbai, the small town of Shirdi has attained fame due to its association with Shri Sai Baba.

Spread in an area of 200 sq. Km, the shrine was made over the Samadhi of Sai Baba. Each day around 25,000 devotees come for Baba's darshan and on festivals the figure comes into lakhs. Ramnavmi, Guru Purnima and Vijayadashami are the major festivals that are celebrated with great enthusiasm and passion. The principles of Sai Baba (like love, charity, forgiveness) are spread through the land of Shirdi, which has been made holy by the pure soul.

27. Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple

Thiruvananthapuram, the capital city of Kerala is the place where one of the 108 Divya Desams (sacred dwellings of Lord Vishnu) is situated in the form of Lord Padmanabhaswamy. Sree Padmanabhaswamy temple can be visited only by the Hindus. There is a strict dress code while entering the temple for men (dhoti without any kind of shirt) and women (sari or skirt and blouse).

The elegant and splendid idol of Lord Vishnu is reclining over a 5 hooded serpent called Anantha. The idol of the Lord is very fascinating as it displays the supreme trinity of Brahma, Vishnu and Mahesh (or Shiva). Out of the navel of Lord's statue a lotus is seen as coming out over which

Lord Brahma (the protector) is sitting. That is why Vishnu (the creator) is also called Padmanabha, i.e. lotus-navel. Under the right palm of the stretched out hand of Padmanabha there is a Shiva lingam (the destroyer), completing all three powers into one.

28. Dwarkadhish Temple

The holy abode of Lord Krishna, Dwarkadhish temple is situated in the Dwarka city (Gujarat). Also known as Jagat Mandir, the temple has two doors for entry and exit for pilgrims. The entry door is called Swarg Dwar (doorway to heaven) and the exit door is called Moksha Dwar (the doorway to liberation).

A part of the Char Dham pilgrimage, the 5-story structure of the temple is standing with the support of 72 pillars. Placed on the banks of River Gomti the temple reaches the height of 51.8 meters and a flight of 56 steps need to be taken to reach the Swarg Dwar. Inside the shrine, the Lord dazzles his devotees through his image built in black stone and reaches up to 2.25 ft.

29. Laxminarayan Temple

Inaugurated by Mahatma Gandhi in 1939, the temple was built by the industrialist Baldeo Das Birla in Delhi and can be visited by people of all castes and creed. Laxminarayan is a form of Lord Vishnu (Narayan) when he is with Goddess Lakshmi (his consort).

The primary shrine is devoted to Laxminarayan, other smaller shrines are dedicated to other Gods like Shiva, Hanuman, Krishna, Ganesh and Buddha. Spread in an area of 7.5 acres the temple is one of the tourist attractions of Delhi and has a huge garden, fountains and a large hall called Geeta Bhawan to conduct discourses, apart from the holy shrines.

30. Iskcon Temple

Also known as the Krishna Balaram mandir, ISKCON (International Society for Krishna Consciousness) was built in the year 1975. Located in the holy land of Vrindavan (Mathura, Uttar Pradesh), the land which is believed to be the abode of Lord Krishna in his young age, the ISKCON temple is well known for the utmost standard of cleanliness and worship they maintain. The chants of 'Hare Krishna' reverberate in the temple all hours of the day.

The temple belongs to the Gaudiya Vaishnava sect of Hinduism, which was founded by Chaitanya Mahaprabhu in the 16th century. Inside the temple there are idols of Krishna, Radha, Balarama, along with the idols of Chaitanya Mahaprabhu and Swami Prabhupada (founder of ISKCON).

For understanding India in its various hues one can start from its temples, i.e. undertake a Pilgrimage holiday in India and start to learn what binds its diverse population and begin to unravel the intriguing phenomenon called India. Mahatma Gandhi said that the essence of all religions is one; only their approaches are different. Likewise, from the different temples of India, one can realize the essence of the enigmatic land of India.

LIST OF IMPORTANT CUPS AND TROPHIES – SPORTS

1. Agha Khan – Cup Hockey – India
2. American Cup – Yatch Racing – USA
3. Ashes Cup – Cricket – Australia England
4. Augusta Masters – Golf- International
5. Australian Open – Lawn Tennis- International
6. Azlan Cup – Hockey – International
7. Bama Belleck Cup – Table Tennis – India
8. BCS Trophy – Football – America
9. Beighton Cup – Hockey – India
10. Bledisloe Cup – Rugby – NewZealand & Australia
11. Bombay Gold Cup – Hockey -India
12. Borg-Warner Trophy – Motorsports – Indianapolis America
13. British Open – Golf – International
14. Burdwan Trophy – Weight Lifting – India
15. Calcutta Cup- Rugby – England and Scotland
16. Champions trophy – Hockey – International
17. Colombo Cup – Football – International
18. Commissioner’s Trophy – Baseball – America
19. Davis Cup- Tennis – International
20. DCM Trophy – Football – India
21. Derby Horse – Racing – International
22. Dhyanchand Trophy – Hockey – India
23. Dr. BC Roy Trophy – Football – India
24. Duleep Trophy – Cricket – India
25. Durand Cup – Football – India
26. European Champion Clubs’ Cup – Football- International
27. Ezra Cup- Polo – India
28. FIFA World Cup Trophy – Football -International
29. French Open – Lawn Tennis – International
30. Grey Cup- Football – US & Canada
31. Heineken Cup – Lawn Tennis – International
32. Heisman Trophy – Football – America
33. Hopman Cup – Lawn Tennis – International
34. IFA Shield – Football – India
35. Kings Cup – Air Races – England
36. Lady Ratan Tata Trophy – Hockey – India
37. Larry O’Brien Championship Trophy – Basketball – America
38. League Championship Trophy – Football – International
39. Liners Open – Golf – International
40. Malaysian Open – Badminton – International
41. Mann Cup – Lacrosse – America
42. McClelland Trophy – Football – Australia
43. Meredka Cup – Football – Asia
44. MLS Cup – Soccer – America
45. Moinuddaula Gold Cup – Cricket – India
46. Nehru Trophy – Hockey – India
47. Old Oaken Bucket – Football – Intercollege America
48. Premier League Trophy – Football – International
49. Prince of Wales Cup – Golf – England
50. Radha Mohan Cup – Polo – India
51. Ranaji Trophy – Cricket – India
52. Rangeshwari Cup – Hockey – India

53. Rovers Cup – Football – India
54. Santosh Trophy – Football – India
55. Scindia Gold Cup – Hockey – India
56. Stanley Cup – Hockey – America
57. Subrato mukherjee Cup – Football – India
58. Swaythling Cup – Table Tennis – World
59. Tata Open – Lawn Tennis – International
60. The Scottish Cup – Football – International
61. Thomas Cup – Badminton – World
62. U. Thant Cup – Tennis – International
63. Uber Cup – Badminton (Women) – World
64. UEFA Champions League – Football – International
65. US Maters – Golf – International
66. US Open – Lawn Tennis – International
67. Vince Lombardi Trophy – Super Bowl – America
68. Walker Cup- Golf – England
69. Webb Ellis Cup – Rugby – World
70. Wellington trophy – Rowing – India
71. West Chester Cup – Polo – England
72. World Cup – Hockey, Football, Cricket – World

UNESCO HERITAGE SITES

Afghanistan

- Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam
- Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley

Albania

- Butrint
- Historic Centres of Berat and Gjirokastra

Algeria

- Al Qal'a of Beni Hammad
- Djémila
- M'Zab Valley
- Tassili n'Ajjer #
- Timgad
- Tipasa
- Kasbah of Algiers

Andorra

- Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley

Argentina

- Los Glaciares National Park #
- Jesuit Missions of the Guaranis: San Ignacio Mini, Santa Ana, Nuestra Señora de Loreto and Santa Maria Mayor (Argentina), Ruins of Sao Miguel das Missoes (Brazil) *
- Iguazu National Park
- Cueva de las Manos, Río Pinturas
- Península Valdés
- Ischigualasto / Talampaya Natural Parks
- Jesuit Block and Estancias of Córdoba

- Quebrada de Humahuaca
- Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System *

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- Monasteries of Haghpat and Sanahin
- Cathedral and Churches of Echmiatsin and the Archaeological Site of Zvartnots
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Kakadu National Park

Willandra Lakes Region

Lord Howe Island Group

Tasmanian Wilderness

Gondwana Rainforests of Australia 1

Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park 2

Wet Tropics of Queensland

Shark Bay, Western Australia

Fraser Island

Australian Fossil Mammal Sites (Riversleigh / Naracoorte)

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Macquarie Island

Greater Blue Mountains Area

Purnululu National Park

Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens

Sydney Opera House

Australian Convict Sites

Ningaloo Coast

Austria

Historic Centre of the City of Salzburg

Palace and Gardens of Schönbrunn

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Semmering Railway

City of Graz – Historic Centre and Schloss Eggenberg

Wachau Cultural Landscape

Fertö / Neusiedlersee Cultural Landscape *

Historic Centre of Vienna

Prehistoric Pile dwellings around the Alps *

Azerbaijan

Walled City of Baku with the Shirvanshah's Palace and Maiden Tower

Gobustan Rock Art Cultural Landscape

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Qal'at al-Bahrain – Ancient Harbour and Capital of Dilmun

Pearling, Testimony of an Island Economy

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Historic Mosque City of Bagerhat

Ruins of the Buddhist Vihara at Paharpur
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Major Mining Sites of Wallonia

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Tiwanaku: Spiritual and Political Centre of the Tiwanaku Culture

Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System *

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Mehmed Paša Sokolovič Bridge in Višegrad

Botswana

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Thracian Tomb of Sveshtari

Burkina Faso

Ruins of Loropéni

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Cidade Velha, Historic Centre of Ribeira Grande

Cambodia

Angkor
Temple of Preah Vihear

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Dja Faunal Reserve
Sangha Trinational *

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Kluane / Wrangell-St. Elias / Glacier Bay / Tatshenshini-Alsek # * 5
Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump
SGang Gwaay
Wood Buffalo National Park
Canadian Rocky Mountain Parks # 6
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Gros Morne National Park
Old Town Lunenburg
Waterton Glacier International Peace Park *
Miguasha National Park
Rideau Canal
Joggins Fossil Cliffs
Landscape of Grand Pré
Red Bay Basque Whaling Station

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South China Karst
Fujian Tulou
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Monticello and the University of Virginia in Charlottesville
Taos Pueblo
Carlsbad Caverns National Park
Waterton Glacier International Peace Park *
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Monumental Earthworks of Poverty Point
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Historic Quarter of the City of Colonia del Sacramento
Fray Bentos Industrial Landscape

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Itchan Kala
Historic Centre of Bukhara
Historic Centre of Shakhrisayabz
Samarkand – Crossroad of Cultures

Vanuatu

Chief Roi Mata's Domain

Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Coro and its Port
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Ciudad Universitaria de Caracas

Viet Nam

Complex of Huế Monuments
Ha Long Bay
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Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park
Central Sector of the Imperial Citadel of Thang Long - Hanoi
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Trang An Landscape Complex

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Old Walled City of Shibam
Old City of Sana'a
Historic Town of Zabid
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Great Zimbabwe National Monument
Khami Ruins National Monument
Mosi-oa-Tunya / Victoria Falls # *
Matobo Hills

Must Know Articles of Indian Constitution

Article	Importance
Article 12 –35	Specify the Fundamental Rights available
Article 36-50	Specify the Directive Principles of state policy
Article 51A	Specifies the Fundamental Duties of every citizen
Article 80	Specifies the number of seats for the Rajya Sabha
Article 81	Specifies the number of seats for the Lok Sabha
Article 343	Hindi as official language
Article 356	Imposition of President's Rule in states
Article 370	Special status to Kashmir
Article 395	Repeals India Independence Act and Government of India Act, 1935

Important Articles of Indian Constitution

Part 1 – Art.1 to art. 4

- Article 1- Name and territory of the union.
- Article 2 – Admission and Establishment of the new state.
- Article 3 – Formation of new states and alteration of areas, boundaries, and name of existing states.

Part 2 – Art.5 to art. 11

- Article 5 – Citizenship at the commencement of the constitution.
- Article 6- Rights of citizenship of certain person who have migrated to India from Pakistan.
- Article 10- continuance of rights of citizenship.
- Article 11- Parliament to regulate the right of citizenship by law.

Part 3 – Art.12 to art.35

- Article 12- Definition of the state
- Article 13 Laws inconsistent with or in derogation of the fundamental rights.
- Originally, constitution provided for 7 basic fundamental rights, now there is only six rights, one Right to property U/A 31 was deleted from the list of fundamental rights by 44th amendment act 1978. It made a legal right U/A 300-A in Part XII of the constitution.

Some important Fundamental Rights are as:

Right to Equality: Art. 14 to Art. 18

- Article 14- Equality before the law.
- Article 15- Prohibition of discrimination on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex. Or place of birth.
- Article 16- Equality of opportunity in matters of public employment.
- Article 17- Abolition of the un-touchability.
- Article 18- Abolition of titles

Right to Freedom: Art. 19 to art. 22

Art.19 guarantees to all the citizens the six rights

1. · (a) Right to freedom of speech and expression.
 2. · (b) Right to assemble peacefully and without arms.
 3. · (c) Right to form associations or unions.
 4. · (d) Right to move freely throughout the territory of India.
 5. · (e) Right to reside and settle in any part of the territory of India.
 6. · (f) Right to practice any profession or to carry on any occupation, trade, and business.
- Article 20- Protection in respect of conviction for offences.
 - Article 21- Protection of life and personal liberty.
 - Article 22- Protection against arrest and detention in certain cases.

Right against Exploitation: Art.23 & art. 24

- Article 23- Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour.
- Article 24- Prohibition of employment of children in factories and mines. Under age of 14.

Right to Freedom of Religion: Art.25 to art. 28

- Article 25- Freedom of conscience and free profession , practice and propagation of religion.
- Article 26- Freedom to manage religious affairs.
- Article 27- Freedom as to pay taxes for promotion of any particular religion.
- Article 28- Freedom from attending religious instruction.

Cultural and Educational Rights: Art.29& art. 30

- Article 29- Protection of interest of minorities.
- Article 30- Right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions.
- Article 32- Remedies for enforcement of Fundamental Rights.

Part.4 Directive Principal of states Policy: Art 36 to art. 51

- Article 36- Definition
- Article 37- Application of DPSP
- Article 39A- Equal justice and free legal aid
- Article 40- Organisation of village panchayat
- Article 41- Right to work , to education, and to public assistance in certain cases
- Article 43- Living Wages, etc. for Workers.
- Article 43A- Participation of workers in management of industries.
- Article 44- Uniform civil code.(applicable in Goa only)
- Article 45- Provision for free and compulsory education for children.
- Article 46- Promotion of educational and economic interest of scheduled castes, ST,and OBC.
- Article 47-Duty of the state to raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living and to improve public health.
- Article 48-Organisation of agriculture and animal husbandry.
- Article 49- Protection of monuments and places and objects of natural importance.
- Article 50- Separation of judiciary from executive.
- Article 51- Promotion of international peace and security.

Fundamental Duties: Part IV-A- Art 51A

It contains, originally 10 duties, now it contains 11 duties by 86th amendments act 2002.

Part 5 – Union (52-151)

- Article 52- The President of India
- Article 53- Executive Power of the union.
- Article 54- Election of President
- Article 61- Procedure for Impeachment of the President.
- Article 63- The Vice-president of India.
- Article 64- The Vice-President to be ex-officio chairman the council of States.
- Article 66-Election of Vice-president.

- Article 72- Pardoning powers of President.
- Article 74- Council of minister to aid and advice President.
- Article 76- Attorney-General for India.
- Article 79- Constitution of Parliament
- Article 80- Composition of Rajya Sabha.
- Article 81- Composition of Lok Sabha.
- Article 83- Duration of Houses of Parliament.
- Article 93- The speakers and Deputy speakers of the house of the people.
- Article 105- Powers, Privileges, etc of the House of Parliament.
- Article 109- Special procedure in respects of money bills
- Article 110- Definition of "Money Bills".
- Article 112- Annual Financial Budget.
- Article 114- Appropriation Bills.
- Article 123- Powers of the President to promulgate Ordinances during recess of parliament.
- Article 124- Establishment of Supreme Court.
- Article 125- Salaries of Judges.
- Article 126- Appointment of acting Chief justice.
- Article 127- Appointment of ad-hoc judges.
- Article 128- Attendance of retired judge at sitting of the Supreme Court.
- Article 129- Supreme court to be court of Record.
- Article 130- Seat of the Supreme court.
- Article 136- Special leaves for appeal to the Supreme Court.
- Article 137- Review of judgement or orders by the Supreme court.
- Article 141- Decision of the Supreme Court binding on all the courts.
- Article 148- Comptroller and Auditor- General of India
- Article 149- Duties and Powers of CAG.

Part 6 – States (152-237)

Article 153- Governors of State

- Article 154- Executive Powers of Governor.
- Article 161- Pardoning powers of the Governor.
- Article 165- Advocate-General of the State.
- Article 213- Power of Governor to promulgate ordinances.
- Article 214- High Courts for states.
- Article 215- High Courts to be court of record.
- Article 226- Power of High Courts to issue certain writs.
- Article 233- Appointment of District judges.
- Article 235- Control over Sub-ordinate Courts.

Part 7 – 238 – Repealed

Part 8 – 239-242 – Union Territories

Part 9 – 243-243 O – Panchayats

- Article 243A- Gram Sabha
- Article 243B- Constitution of Panchayats

Part 9A – 243 P-243 ZG – Municipalities

Part 10 : Scheduled and Tribal Areas -244

Part 11 : Center- State Relations 245 – 263

Part 12 : Finance, Property, Contracts and Suits (264 – 300A)

- Article 266- Consolidated Fund and Public Accounts Fund
- Article 267- Contingency Fund of India
- Article 280- Finance Commission
- Article 300-A- Right to property.

Part 13 : Trade, Commerce and Intercourse within the territories of India (301-307)

- Article 301-Freedom to trade, commerce, and intercourse.
- Article 302- Power of Parliament to impose restrictions on trade, commerce, and intercourse.

Part 14 : Services Under Center and State (308-323)

- Article 312- All- India-Service.
- Article 315- Public service commissions for the union and for the states
- Article 320- Functions of Public Service Commission.

Part 14A : Tribunals (323 A – 323 B)

- Article 323A- Administrative Tribunals

Part 15 : Elections (324 – 329)

- Article 324-Superintendence, direction and control of Elections to be vested in an Election Commission.
- Article 325- No person to be ineligible for inclusion in or to claim to be included in a special, electoral roll on grounds of religion, race, caste, or sex.
- Article 326- Elections to the house of the people and to the legislative assemblies of states to be on the basis of adult suffrage.

Part 16 : Special Provisions to SC, ST, OBC, Minorities etc (330 -342)

- Article 338- National Commission for the SC, & ST.
- Article 340- Appointment of a commission to investigate the conditions of backward classes.

Part 17 : Official Language (343- 351)

- Article 343- Official languages of the Union.
- Article 345- Official languages or languages of a states.
- Article 348- Languages to be used in the Supreme Court and in the High Courts.
- Article 351-Directive for development of the Hindi languages.

Part 18 : Emergency (352-360)

- Article 352- Proclamation of emergency (National Emergency).
- Article 356- State Emergency (President's Rule)
- Article 360- Financial Emergency

Part 19 : Miscellaneous (361-367)

- Article 361- Protection of President and Governors

Part 20 : Amendment of Constitution (368)

- Article 368- Powers of Parliaments to amend the constitution.

Part 21 : Special, Transitional and Temporary Provisions (369 – 392)

- Article 370 – Special provision of J&K.
- Article 371A – Special provision with respect to the State of Nagaland
- Article 371-J: Special Status for Hyderabad-Karnataka region

Part 22 : Short Text, Commencement, Authoritative Text in Hindi and Repeals (392 – 395)

- Article 393 – Short title – This Constitution may be called the Constitution of India.

STATE	NAME OF THE DANCE
Andhra	Kuchipudi, Kolattam, Dhimsa, Veeranatyam

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Pradesh	
Arunachal Pradesh	Bardo Chham
Assam	Bihu, Jumar, Bagurumba, Ali Ai Ligang
Bihar	Paika, Kajari, Bidesia, Jhijhian
Chhattisgarh	Panthi, Raut Nacha
Gujarat	Raas, tippani, Padhar, Garba
Haryana	Dhamal, Daph, Phag, Ghoomar, Jhumar, Loor
Himachal Pradesh	Kinnauri Nati, Namgen
Jharkhand	Karma
Jammu & Kashmir	Kud, Dumhal, Rouf, Bhand Pather, Bachha Nagma, Hafiza Dance, Bhand Jashan, Wuegi-Nachun
Karnataka	Yakshagna, Bayalata, Dollu Kunitha, Veeragaase dance
Kerala	Mohiniattam, Kathakali, Padayani
Madhya Pradesh	Tertali, Charkula, Jawara, Matki dance, Phulpati dance, Maanch, Gaur Maria, Grida
Maharashtra	Pavri Nach, Lavani, Dangi, Koli
Manipur	Thang Ta, Dhol Cholom
Mizoram	Cheraw Dance
Nagaland	Chang Lo or Sua Lua
Odisha	Ghumura, Chau, Goti Pua, Nacni, Odissi, Dhap, Dalkhai, Baag Naach
Punjab	Bhangra, Jhumar, Karthi, Kikkli, Malwai Giddha, Sammi, Jindua
Rajasthan	Ghoomar, Kalbelia, Bhavai, Chirami, Gair, Tera Tali
Sikkim	Singh Chaam
Tamil Nadu	Bharata Natyam, Devarattam, Kamandi, Kummi, Karagattam, Mayil Attam, Paampu attam, Oyilattam
Telangana	Perini Thandavam, Lambadi, Dappu, Tappeta Gullu, Burra Katha, Pagati Vesham
Tripura	Hojagiri
Uttar Pradesh	Charkula, Kathak, Karma, Dadra
Uttarakhand	Barada Nati, Botiya, Cancheri, Chhapelia, Choliya, Jagars, Jhora, Romala
Goa	Dekhnni, Fugdi, Corridinho, Dashavatara
Meghalaya	Nongkrem, Shad Suk mynsiem, Behdienkhal, Lahoo

Important Fairs

- Khumbh Mela:** Khumbh Mela is a very big fair and the largest gathering of Hindu pilgrims, celebrated every twelve years at four holy places Prayag (Allahabad), Haridwar, Ujjain and Nashik. The grand event held by rotation, on the banks of the sacred river Godavari, Kshipra, Yamuna and The Gange. During this big fair Hindus pilgrims gather at the sacred Ganges river for holy bath. The major attractions of this biggest religious fair are the procession of Naga Sadhu "Holy Men of India" and procession of Akharas marching.
- Sonepur Mela:** The Sonepur Cattle Fair held (November) on full moon day in Bihar, on the confluence of river Ganges and Gandak. Sonepur fair is also known as the Harihar Chhetra Mela, The Sonepur Fair is the only one of its kind in the world. Haathi Bazaar is one of the major attraction of the fairs, where elephants are lined up for sale, Apart from this all breeds of buffaloes, donkeys, ponies and birds are also available for sale. The largest animal fair in Indian attracts peoples from all around the Asia.
- Pushkar Fair:** Pushkar Fair is one of the world's largest camel fairs, held (October-November) in the oldest city of Rajasthan "Pushkar". The Pushkar camel fair attracts large number of visitors from all around the world, especially from Israel. The biggest fair of Rajasthan held on the banks of the Pushkar Lake, It is also an important tourist attraction. The competitions such as the matka phod and longest mustache and the Hot air balloon are the few very special experience to enjoy.
- Hemis Gompa Fair:** The Hemis Gompa festival is a religious fair and one of the most auspicious Occasions for the of Buddhist community in India. The grand fair held in the month of January/February at the world's famous Hemis Gompa "the biggest Buddhist monastery" located in Ladakh. The famous Hemis Gompa is surrounded by mountain rocks and concealed inside the Hemis National Park.
- Kolayat Fair:** Kolayat Fair also known as Kapil Muni Fair is the another largest cattle fair held (September-October) in Bikaner district of the Royal state Rajasthan. The major attraction of the fair is when thousands of devotees take a sacred dip and put several lit oil lamps to float in the calm waters of the Kolayat lake. The Royal state of India also host Desert Festival of Jaisalmer, Nagaur fair and the most famous camel Festival in Bikaner.
- Chandrabhaga Mela:** Chandrabhaga Mela is also known as Magha Saptam Mela, A grand fair is held (February) at Khandagiri near Bhubaneswar Orissa. The important fair and festival is celebrated every year during the full moon phase at the sacred Chandrabhaga River. During the seven day fair thousands of pilgrims gather to bathe in the holy Chandrabhaga River. The famous Konarak Sun Temple, Math and Archaeological Museum are the best sightseeing of the tribal state.
- Gangasagar Mela:** Gangasagar pilgrimage and fair is the second largest congregation of mankind after the holy Kumbha Mela. The big religious fair held annually where the holy river Gange meet the Bay of Bengal in West Bengal. During the time of fairs and festivals thousands people come for holy bath.
- Ambubasi Fair:** The Ambubasi Fair is one of the numerous religious fairs and festivals celebrated across India. The three-day traditional fair is organized every year during monsoon in the Kamakhya temple at Guwahati, Assam. Tens of thousands of devotees from different parts of the country thronged the Kamakhya Temple for the three-day traditional fair.

9. **Baneshwar fair:** The Baneshwar fair is most popular tribal fair held in Dungarpur district in Rajasthan during the month of February. This is a religious fair with simple and traditional rituals to worship the Lord Shiva. This fair is the center of attraction of a large number of tribals from the neighboring states of Madhya Pradesh.

World Major Space Centers

Space Center	Location
John F. Kennedy Space Center	Merritt Island, Florida, US
Guiana Space Centre	Kourou, French Guiana
Yu. A. Gagarin State Scientific Research-and-Testing Cosmonaut Training Center (GCTC)	Star City, Russia
Tanegashima Space Center	Tanegashima, Japan
German Aerospace Center (DLR)	Cologne, Germany
Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center (JSLC)	Gobi desert, Ejina Banner, China
Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SHAR)	Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh, India
Luigi Broglio Space Centre (BSC)	Malindi, Kenya
Alcantara Launch Center	Alcantara, Brazil
John H. Chapman Space Centre	Longueuil, Quebec, Canada
Naro Space Center	South Jeolla, South Korea