

# Current Affairs 2015 (Jan - Aug)

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## List of Prime Minister's Foreign visits

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### **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**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Agreement/MoU</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
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.

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|---|---|---|
| 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
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### **MoUs signed between India and France**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Area of Co-operation</b>	<b>Description of the Agreement</b>
	<b>Defence and Nuclear Energy</b>	
1	<b>MoU between L&amp;T and AREVA</b>	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	<b>Pre-engineering agreements between NPCIL and Areva</b>	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.
	<b>Space</b>	
3.	<b>MoU between ISRO and CNES on Megha Tropiques</b>	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.
7. **Memorandum of Economic Relations**  
The understanding reached in this MoU will help establish

**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**

**Railways**

8. **Railway protocol between Indian Ministry of Railways and French**

**National Railways (SNCF)**

**Energy**

9. **Guarantee Agreement with AFD Financing of Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)**

**CULTURE, HERITAGE**

**CONSERVATION,**

**TOURISM, PEOPLE-TOPEOPLE**

**CONTACTS**

10. **Administrative Arrangement in the field of Cultural Heritage**

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.

The Protocol seeks to establish cooperation between Indian and French Railways for semi-high speed rail and station renovation.

The Agreement seeks to finance Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)

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**

The MoU envisages cooperation to undertake joint planning and geographical studies in India and France and training of

	<p><b>Architecture, Delhi and National Architecture Institute in Paris, France</b></p>	<p>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.</p>
<p><b>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')</b></p>	<p>This MoU envisages cooperation between to cooperate in the fields of sustainable development, urban planning, heritage conservation and up-gradation of basic services.</p>	
<p><b>15 Proposal for twinning of historical monuments</b></p>	<p>Twinning of historical monuments is covered under the LoI on Tourism Cooperation.</p>	
<p><b>16 VIE scheme to allow Indian students in France and French students in India to stay for a period of 24 months.</b></p>	<p>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.</p>	
<p><b>17 Letter of Intent on Ayurveda between Ministry of Ayush and University of Strasbourg</b></p> <p><b>Skill Development</b></p>	<p>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</p>	

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| 18 | <p><b>MoU between National Skill Development Agency (NSDA), India and the National Commission for Vocational Qualifications (Commission Nationale de la Certification Professionnelle – CNCV Science and Technology</b></p> | <p>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.</p>   |
| 19 | <p><b>MoU on cooperation in the field of Science &amp; Technology between Department of Science &amp; Technology of India and the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS)</b></p>                             | <p>The MoU is for cooperation between the two countries in the areas of applied mathematics, physics, Information &amp; 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.</p> |
| 20 | <p><b>MoU between Department of Biotechnology of India and CNRS and UPMC on Collaboration for establishment of a National Institute of Marine Biology and</b></p>   | <p>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 regions from the Andaman to Lakshadweep.</p>  |

## Biotechnology in India

### 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. Sneh lata Kumar Secretary (BM) Ministry of Home Affairs
2	<b>Unveiling of Plaque for Nepal Police Academy</b>		
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	<b>Handing over of keys for Mobile Soil Testing Van</b> by Shri Saroj Kumar Poddar, Chairman, paradeep Phospates 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	Bishnu Om Bade, Joint	Mr. Niraj Verma, Joint Secretary

	Agreement (MVA)	Secretary, Ministry of Physical Infrastructure & Transport	Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
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	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	Mr. Navtej Sarna, Secretary (West), Ministry of External	Mr. Sateaved Seebaluck, Secretary to the Cabinet

	Ocean Economy	of experts and other related activities	Affairs	
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 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	Mr. Navtej Sarna, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs	Mr. Sateev Seegaluck, Secretary to the Cabinet
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. Sateev Seegaluck, Secretary to the Cabinet
4	Memorandum of Understanding for	This MoU provides for setting up	Mr. Navtej	Mr.

	the Improvement in Sea and Air Transportation Facilities at Agalega Island of Mauritius	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.	Sarna, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs	Sateevad 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 Indian	Mr. Navtej Sarna, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs	Mr. Sateevad Seebaluck, Secretary to the Cabinet

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 Defense.
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 Kunning

### **List of Countries - Their Capital, Currency and Official Language**

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

<b>European Countries</b>	<b>Capital</b>	<b>Currency</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	London	Pound Sterling
<b>France</b>	Paris	Euro
<b>Spain</b>	Madrid	Euro
<b>Portugal</b>	Lisbon	Euro
<b>Germany</b>	Berlin	Euro
<b>Italy</b>	Rome	Euro
<b>Vatican City</b>	Vatican	Euro
<b>Malta</b>	Valletta	Euro
<b>Switzerland</b>	Bern	Swiss Franc
<b>Belgium</b>	Brussels	Euro
<b>Netherlands</b>	Amsterdam	Euro
<b>Denmark</b>	Copenhagen	Krone
<b>Norway</b>	Oslo	Norwegian krone
<b>Sweden</b>	Stockholm	Krona
<b>Finland</b>	Helsinki	Euro
<b>Estonia</b>	Tallinn	Euro

<b>Latvia</b>	Riga	Euro
<b>Lithuania</b>	Vilnius	Euro
<b>Belarus</b>	Minsk	Belarusian ruble
<b>Ukraine</b>	Kiev	Ukrainian hryvnia
<b>Poland</b>	Warsaw	Zloty
<b>Czech Republic</b>	Prague	Koruna
<b>Austria</b>	Vienna	Euro
<b>Albania</b>	Tirana	Lek
<b>Bosnia</b>	Sarajevo	Convertible mark
<b>Bulgaria</b>	Sofia	Lev
<b>Croatia</b>	Zagreb	Kuna
<b>Macedonia</b>	Skopje	Macedonian denar
<b>Moldova</b>	Chişinău	Moldovan leu
<b>Romania</b>	Bucharest	Romanian leu
<b>Slovakia</b>	Bratislava	Euro
<b>Slovenia</b>	Ljubljana	Euro
<b>Hungary</b>	Budapest	Forint
<b>Greece</b>	Athens	Euro
<b>Cyprus</b>	Nicosia	Euro
<b>Ireland</b>	Dublin	Euro / Pound Sterling
<b>Iceland</b>	Reykjavík	Icelandic króna
<b>Luxembourg</b>	Luxembourg	Euro

<b>North American Nations</b>	<b>Capital</b>	<b>Currency</b>	<b>Language</b>
Antigua and Barbuda	St. John's	East Caribbean dollar	English
The Bahamas	Nassau	Bahamian dollar	English
Barbados	Bridgetown	Barbadian dollar	English
Belize	Belmopan	Belize dollar	English

Canada	Ottawa	Canadian dollar	English,French
Costa Rica	San José	Costa Rican colón	Spanish
Cuba	Havana	Peso	Spanish
Dominica	Roseau	East Caribbean dollar	English, French
Dominican Republic	Santo Domingo	Dominican Peso	Spanish
El Salvador	San Salvador	United States dollar	Spanish
Grenada	St. George's	East Caribbean dollar	English
Guatemala	Guatemala City	Guatemalan quetzal	Spanish
Haiti	Port-au-Prince	Haitian gourde	French Haitian Creole
Honduras	Tegucigalpa	Honduran lempira	Spanish
Jamaica	Kingston	Jamaican dollar	English
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
Saint Lucia	Castries	East Caribbean dollar	English
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Kingstown	East Caribbean dollar	English
Trinidad and Tobago	Port of Spain	Trinidad and Tobago dollar	English
United States	Washington, D.C.	United States dollar	No Federal Language
<b>South American Nations</b>	<b>Capital</b>	<b>Currency</b>	<b>Language</b>
Argentina	Buenos Aires	Peso	Spanish
Bolivia	La Paz	Boliviano	Spanish

Brazil	Brasília	Real	Portuguese
Chile	Santiago	Peso	Spanish
Colombia	Bogotá	Peso	Spanish
Ecuador	Quito	United States dollar	Spanish
Guyana	Georgetown	Guyanese dollar	English
Paraguay	Asunción	Guaraní	Spanish
Peru	Lima	Nuevo sol	Spanish
Suriname	Paramaribo	Surinamese dollar	Dutch
Uruguay	Montevideo	Uruguayan peso	Spanish
Venezuela	Caracas	Bolívar fuerte	Spanish

<b>African Nations</b>	<b>Capital</b>	<b>Currency</b>	<b>Official language(s)</b>
Algeria	Algiers	Algerian dinar	Arabic
Angola	Luanda	Kwanza	Portuguese
Benin	Porto Novo	West African CFA franc	French
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
Cape Verde	Praia	Cape Verdean escudo	Portuguese
Central African Republic	Bangui	Central African CFA franc	French
Chad	N'Djamena	Central African CFA franc	French, Arabic
Comoros	Moroni	Comorian franc	Arabic, French,

<i>Congo</i>	Kinshasa	Congolese franc	French
Djibouti	Djibouti	Djiboutian Franc	Arabic, French
Egypt	Cairo	Egyptian Pound	Arabic
Equatorial Guinea	Malabo	Central African CFA franc	Spanish, French, Portuguese
Eritrea	Asmara	Nakfa	Arabic, English
Ethiopia	Addis Ababa	Ethiopian birr	Amharic
Gabon	Libreville	Central African CFA franc	French
Gambia	Banjul	Dalasi	English
Ghana	Accra	Ghanaian cedi	English
Guinea-Bissau	Bissau	West African CFA franc	Portuguese
Guinea	Conakry	Guinean franc	French
Ivory Coast	Yamoussoukro	West African CFA franc	French
Kenya	Nairobi	Kenyan shilling	English
Lesotho	Maseru	Loti	English
Liberia	Monrovia	Liberian dollar	English
Libya	Tripoli	Libyan dinar	Arabic
Madagascar	Antananarivo	Malagasy Ariary	French
<b>African Nations</b>	<b>Capital</b>	<b>Currency</b>	<b>Official language(s)</b>
Malawi	Lilongwe	Malawian kwacha	English
Mali	Bamako	West African CFA franc	French
Mauritania	Nouakchott	Mauritanian Ouguiya	Arabic
Mauritius	Port Louis	Mauritian rupee	English
Morocco	Rabat	Moroccan dirham	Arabic
Mozambique	Maputo	Mozambican metical	Portuguese
Namibia	Windhoek	Namibian dollar	English
Niger	Niamey	West African CFA franc	French

Nigeria	Abuja	Nigerian naira	English
Republic of Congo	Brazzaville	Central African CFA franc	French
Rwanda	Kigali	Rwandan franc	French, English
Senegal	Dakar	West African CFA franc	French
Seychelles	Victoria	Seychellois rupee	English, French
Sierra Leone	Freetown	Leone	English
Somalia	Mogadishu	Somali shilling	Somali, Arabic
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
São Tomé and Príncipe	São Tomé	São Tomé and Príncipe Dobra	Portuguese
Tanzania	Dodoma	Tanzanian shilling	English
Togo	Lomé	West African CFA franc	French
Tunisia	Tunis	Tunisian dinar	Arabic
Uganda	Kampala	Ugandan shilling	English
Zambia	Lusaka	Zambian kwacha	English
Zimbabwe	Harare	United States dollar and South African rand	English
Oceania Nations	Capital	Currency	Language
Australia	Canberra	Australian dollar	English
Fiji	Suva	Fijian dollar	English
Kiribati	Tarawa	Kiribati dollar Australian dollar	English
Marshall Islands	Majuro	United States dollar	English

Micronesia	Palikir	United States dollar	English
Nauru	<b>No official Capital</b>	Australian dollar	English
New Zealand	Wellington	New Zealand dollar	English
Palau	Ngerulmud , Melekeok	United States dollar	English
Papua New Guinea	Port Moresby	Kina	English
Samoa	Apia	Tala	English
Solomon Islands	Honiara	Solomon Islands dollar	English
Tonga	Nuku'alofa	Pa'anga	English
Tuvalu	Funafuti	Tuvaluan dollar Australian dollar	English
Vanuatu	Port Vila	Vanuatu vatu	French, English

## 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 un organized 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 – 2015****List of Arjuna Award Winners 2015**

S. No.	Name of the sportsperson	Discipline
1	Naib Subedar Sandeep Kumar	Archery
2	Ms. M.R. Poovamma	Athletics
3	Mr. Kidambi Srikanth Nammalwar	Badminton
4	Mr. Mandeep Jangra	Boxing
5	Mr. Rohit Sharma	Cricket
6	Ms. Dipa Karmakar	Gymnastic
7	Mr. Sreejesh P.R.	Hockey
8	Mr. Manjeet Chhillar	Kabaddi
9	Ms. Abhilasha Shashikant Mhatre	Kabaddi
10	Mr. Sawarn Singh	Rowing
11	Mr. Anup Kumar Yama	Roller Skating
12	Mr. Jitu Rai	Shooting
13	Shri S. Sathish Kumar	Weightlifting
14	Mr. Bajrang	Wrestling
15	Ms. Babita Kumari	Wrestling
16	Ms. Yumnam Sanathoi Devi	Wushu
17	Mr. Sharath M. Gayakwad	Para-Swim

## National and International Awards

Name of The Persons/Organizations	Awards
Fauja Singh	Queen's New Year Honors 2015
M.Y.S Prasad (Director of Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.	Vikram Sarabhai Memorial Award for the year 2015
ISRO Mars Orbiter Mission Team	Space Pioneer Award in the category of Science and Technology 2015
Raghuram Rajan, Governor of Reserve Bank of India	Governor of the Year Award 2015
Reserve Bank of New Zealand	Central Bank of the Year Award 2015
Amitabh Bachchan	Social Media Person of the Year Award 2015 given by Internet and Mobile Association of India
Prabhu Nath Dwivedi	Sahitya Akademi Award 2014
Subhash Chandra Agrawal	Giraffe Hero Award for the year 2015
Jammu and Kashmir	National Award for e-Governance for best District level initiative
R.K. Tyagi, the Chairman of Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd	JGBS-Top Rankers' Excellence Award of the year 2014
Master Devesh Kumar	Sanjay Chopra Award 2015 as announced by the Government of India
Gunjan Sharma	Geeta Chopra Award 2015 as announced by the Government of India
Frank Islam, Indian-American Philanthroist	Martin Luther King Jr. Award 2015
Arundhati Subramaniam	Khushwant Singh Memorial Prize for Poetry 2015
Paulina Vega of Colombia	Miss Universe 2015
Sardar Singh, the Captain of Hockey team	Padma Shri Award
Puja Thakur	inter-service Guard of Honour 2015
Late Major Mukund Varadarajan and Late Naik Neeraj Kumar	Ashok Chakra award on 26 <sup>th</sup> January 2015. The Award is the highest peacetime military award of India.
Dr. A. Zakir Naik	King Faisal International Prize for the year 2015
Srikant Jagabathula	Faculty Early Career Development Award (CAREER) 2015
Saurav Ganguly	Life Membership of Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) MCC
Dr.Tessy Thomas and Geeta Varadan	Dr.Y. Nayudamma Memorial Award 2014
Purrendu Dasgupta	J. Calvin Giddings Award 2015
Ratan Tata	Doctorate of Automative Engineering by Clemson University of South Carolina, USA

Hifikepunye Pohamba, President of Namibia won	'Mo Ibrahim Prize' for African Leadership for the year 2014.
Three South Asian women namely Nilofar Rahmani, Nadia Sharmeen and Tabassum Adnan	International Women of Courage Award
Rani Mukherjee	National Award for best representation of Cause of Women. The award has given by National Institute of Gender Justice (NIGJ).
Stree Shakti Puraskars and Nari Shakti Puraskars	presented by the President of India Pranab Mukherjee for the year 2014 on 08 <sup>th</sup> March 2015 i.e. on the eve of International Women's Day.
Kerala Tourism	Golden Gate Award of Silver Prize
Veerappa Moily	Saraswati Samman for the year 2014
An Indian origin Ganasen Reddy	KwaZulu-Natal 2015 National Teachers Awards 2015
Lata Mangeskar	Laadli Voice of Century Award 2015
Rajendra Singh	named as 2015 Stockholm Water Prize Laureate. He is also known as 'Water Man of India'.
Shashi Kapoor	chosen for Dadasaheb Phalke Award for the year 2014
Madhav Gadgil and Dr.Jane Lubchenco	named for Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement 2015
Akhil Sharma, the Indian-American	The Folio Prize for the year 2015
Gopaldas Neeraj the famous Hindi Poet	'Rashtriya Kavi Pradeep Samman' for the year 2012-13
Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)	Gandhi Peace Prize for the year 2014
John F. Nash Jr. of USA	Abel Prize for the year 2015
Balbir Singh Senior	Major Dhyani Chand Lifetime Achievement Award 2015
<b>Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya</b>	<b>Posthumously awarded with Bharat Ratna on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2015</b>
Aditi Arya	FBB Femina Miss India 2015
Delhi International Airport Limited	Golden Peacock National Quality Award for the year 2015
Pratap Singh, an Indian origin schoolboy	Institute of Physics Prize for Cosmic-ray project on 07 <sup>th</sup> April 2015. The event organized at National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham.
Subadhra Devi Rai	International Achievement Award for the year 2015.
Susanta Lahiri and Kattesh V. Katti	Hevesy Medal Award for the year 2015
Sachin Tendulkar	elected as member of Laureus Sports Academy
Shah Rukh Khan and Zayn Malik	honoured at 5 <sup>th</sup> Asian Awards on 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2015 for outstanding contributions. Earlier Irfan Khan, Anupam Kher and Yash Chopra

	were awarded with this Award.
Shah Rukh Khan	Dadasaheb Phalke Film Foundation Award for the year 2015
Bharatiya Mahila Bank	Asian Banker Achievement Award 2015
Gopinath Pillai	with Outstanding Service Award 2015
Sangeeta Bhatia	Heinz Award for the year 2015
Anil Kapoor	with Pandit Dinanath Mangeshkar Award for the year 2015
Bhalchandra Nemade of Maharashtra	Jnanpith Award
Siddhartha Gigoo	Commonwealth Short Story Prize for Asia Region for his work 'Umbrella Man'.
S.S. Negi	World No Tobacco Day Award 2015
Suresh Kalmadi	Asian Athletics Association President's Award 2015
Ali Smith, the famous Author of UK	Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction 2015
Indian Space Research Organization	Space Pioneer Award for the year 2015
Parkash Singh Badal, Chief Minister of Punjab	Sant Namdev National Award 2015
R. Janakiraman, S. Sathyu, Vijay Kichly and Tulsidas Borkar	Sangeet Akademi Fellowships
Babusha Kohli and Upasana	Navlekhan Award of Bharatiya Jnanpith 2015
Sanjay Subrahmanyam	Sangitha Kalanidhi Award 2015
Benni Joseph Mavelil, the famous Philanthropist of UK	V.K. Krishna Menon Award 2015
Ashwini Angadi, Devika Malik and Akshay Jadhao	Queen's Young Leaders Award
Sri Sri Ravi Shankar	Highest Civilian award of Columbia
K. Meenakshi Sundaram, Acharya Munishwar Jha, Charu Chandra Pande and Mathuradut Mathpal	selected for Bhasha Samman given by Sahitya Akademi
Prataprao Pawar	Punyabhushan Award
Vishwanath Tripathi	Moorti Devi Award
Nadia District of West Bengal	United Nations Public Service Award 2015
R. Paul Singh	GCHERA World Agriculture Prize for the year 2015
Sir Fazle Hasan Abed of Bangladesh	World Food Prize for the year 2015
Shakthi Nataraj of India	'Philip Brett LGBT Studies Fellowship'
Darshan Jain	US Presidential Award for Excellence
Sanjeev Galande	G.D. Birla Award for Scientific Research
Preet Bharara, Rakesh Khurana, Madhulika Sikka, Abraham Verghese	Pride of America Award for the year 2015
Jodhpur Film Society	Pritiman Sarkar Award for the year 2014-15
Tata Steel's West Bokaro Division	Golden Peacock Environment Management (GPEM) Award for the year 2015

Pamorthy Shankar	Grand Prix World Press Cartoon Award
Benoy Behl	Best Documentary Producer Award at Madrid International Film Festival
Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP)	Frost and Sullivan's Economic Development Innovation Award
Comparex India Pvt. Ltd	Microsoft Country Partner of the year Award
Sayed Haider Raza, the famous Modern Artist of India	Civilian honour of France Legion of Honour
Sunita Viswanath	Champions of Change
Arlene Biala	American Book Awards for the year 2015 for book 'Her Beckoning Hands' while the Lifetime Achievement Award won by Anne Waldman.
Peter Higgs	Royal Society Copley Medal
Helena Ndume and Jorge Sampaio	Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela Prize
Ramachandra Guha	Fukuoka Asian Culture Prize
The State Government of Tamil Nadu	Dr.A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Award for Youth
Kashinath Singh	Bharat Bharti Literary Award
Amalendu Krishna	Ramanujan Prize
Zhanna Nemtsova	Solidarity Prize of Poland
Dilip Parulekar	PATWA-Safari India South Asia Travel Award
Raghavendra Gadagkar	Germany's Cross of Order of the Merit
Dr. M. Veerappa Moily	Saraswati Samman
Lieutenant Colonel Nectar Sanjenbam and Sub Rajesh Kumar	Kirti Chakras
Zia Haider Rahman of Bangladesh	James Tait Black Award for the year 2015
Babasaheb Purandare	Maharashtra Bhushan Award
Zaina Erhaim of Syria	Peter Mackler Award
Rajendra Singh	Stockholm Water Prize
Sania Mirza	Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna 2015 award for Tennis
Tejinder Pal Singh	Australian of the Day
<b>INDIA</b>	<b>UNESCO's Award of Excellence 2015</b>
Black Mamba Anti-Poaching Unit of South Africa	Selected for UNEP Champions of Earth Award
Anupam Kher	Honoured Guest of Texas Award
Tambul Leaf Plates, an Indian based organization	SEED Special Recognition Award
Dr.G. Satheesh Reddy	Silver Medal by Royal Aeronautical Society
National Geographic Society	Selected for UNEP Champions of the Earth Award
Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of Bangladesh	UN Award for Leadership on Climate Change
Swetha Prabakaran, an Indian-American	Champions of Change Award in USA

Aqeela Asifi, refugee teacher of Afghanistan	UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award
Gujarat	Best State/UT for Comprehensive Tourism Development
Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh	Best Heritage City
Kerala	Most Innovative Use of Information Technology
Shamim Hanfi	Jnangarima Manad Alankaran Award
Dr.Kamal Kishore Goenka	24 <sup>th</sup> Vyaas Samman 2014
Lalita Prasida Sripada Srisai	Community Impact Award
Indra Nooyi and Shobhana Bhartia	Global Leadership Award 2015 of US-India Business Council (USIBC)
Natvar Bhavsar	Artistic Achievement Award
Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO)	SKOCH Award for Smart Government
Dr.Jacob Tsimmerman of Canada	SASTRA Ramanujan Prize 2015
Kartik Chandran	National Academies of Science Fellowship, National Science Foundation Career Award
Sheila Watt-Cloutier	Right Livelihood Award
Ratan Tata	UK City of Coventry
Zenia Bhungara	Merlin Award by International Magicians Association
Shashi Kapoor	Lifetime Achievement Award of Jagran Fest
Shoojit Sircar	Best Director for the film 'Piku' at Jagran Fest
Trichy also known as Tiruchirapalli Municipal Corporation	Skoch Smart Governance Award
Nulagi, an Indian Film	Popular Choice Award at Climate CoLab of Massachusetts Institute of Technology
I.V. Sasi, the famous film maker of Malayalam	J.C. Daniel Award
President Pranab Mukherjee	Honorary Doctorate by Al-Quds University, Ramallah, Palestine
Kailash Satyarthi	Harvard Humanitarian of the Year Award
Lobsang Sangay, Prime Minister of Tibet	Presidential Medal by Salisbury University, USA

Noble Prize 2015	
Youyou Tu of China, Satoshi Omura of Japan and William Campbell of Ireland	Nobel Prize for Physiology and Medicine
Takaaki Kajita of Japan and Arthur B. McDonald of Canada	Nobel Prize in Physics 2015
Tomas Lindahl of UK, Paul Modrich and Aziz	Nobel Prize in Chemistry for DNA studies

Sancar of USA	
Svetlana Alexievich of Ukraine	Nobel Prize in Literature
National Dialogue Quartet, Tunisia (Nobel Committee of Norway)	Nobel Peace Prize
Angus Deaton of Scotland	Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences

<b>Forbes India Leadership Awards 2015</b>	
Uday Shankar, Star India Pvt. Ltd.	Best CEO of Multinational Company
Arundhati Bhattacharya, State Bank of India	Best CEO of Public Sector
Best CEO of Private Sector	C.P. Gurnani, Tech Mahindra Ltd.
R.C. Bhargava, Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.	Lifetime Achievement Award
Uday Kotak, Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd.	Entrepreneur for the Year

<b>IIFA Awards 2015</b>	
Queen	Best Film Award
Shahid Kapoor	Best Actor
Kangana Ranaut	Best Actress

<b>OSCAR AWARDS 2015</b>
87th Oscars ended and movie Birdman bagged four awards including best picture award

Best director	Alejandro González Iñárritu for Birdman
Best actor	Eddie Redmayne for The Theory of Everything
Best actress	Julianne Moore for Still Alice
Best picture	Birdman
Best supporting actor	JK Simmons for Whiplash
Achievement in costume design	The Grand Budapest Hotel – Milena Canonero
Achievement in makeup and hairstyling	The Grand Budapest Hotel – Frances Hannon, Mark Coulier
Best foreign-language film	Ida – Paweł Pawlikowski
Best live-action short film	The Phone Call – Mat Kirkby, James Lucas
Best documentary short subject	Crisis Hotline: Veterans Press 1 – Ellen Goosenberg Kent, Dana Perry
Achievement in sound mixing	Whiplash – Craig Mann, Ben Wilkins, Thomas Curley
Achievement in sound editing	American Sniper – Alan Robert Murray, Bub Asman
Best supporting actress	Patricia Arquette for Boyhood
Achievement in visual effects	Interstellar - Paul J Franklin, Andrew Lockley, Ian Hunter, Scott R Fisher
Best animated short film	Feast – Patrick Osborne, Kristina Reed
Best animated feature film	Big Hero 6
Best production design	The Grand Budapest Hotel: Adam Stockhausen, Anna Pinnock
Achievement in cinematography	Birdman: Emmanuel Lubezki
Achievement in film editing	Whiplash – Tom Cross
Best documentary feature	Citizenfour – Laura Poitras, Mathilde Bonnefoy, Dirk Wilutzky
Best original song	Glory from Selma – Lonnie Lynn (Common), John Stephens (John Legend)
Best original score	Alexandre Desplat – The Grand Budapest Hotel
Original screenplay	Alejandro González Iñárritu, Nicolás Giacobone, Alexander Dinelaris,
Adapted screenplay	Graham Moore – The Imitation Game

## 57th Annual Grammy Awards

Title	Winner
Album Of The Year	Morning Phase (Beck)
Best Album Notes	Offering : Live At Temple University
Best Alternative Music Album	St. Vincent (St. Vincent)
Best American Roots Performance	A Feather's Not A bird (Rosanne Cash)

Best American Roots Song	A Feather's Not A Bird (Rosanne Cash)
Best American Album	The River & The Thread (Rosanne Cash)
Best Arrangement, Instrumental Or A Cappella	Daft Punk
Best Arrangement, Instruments And Vocals	New York Tendaberry
Best Bluegrass Album	The Earls Of Leicester
Best Blues Album	Step Back (Johnny Winter)
Best Boxed Or Special Limited Edition Package	The Rise & Fall Of Paramount Records, Volume One (1917-27)
Best Chamber Music/Small Ensemble Performance	In 27 Pieces – The Hilary Hahn Encores
Best Children's Album	I Am Malala : How One Girl Stood Up For Education And Changed The World (Malala Yousafzai)
Best Choral Performance	The Sacred Spirit Of Russia
Best Classical Compendium	Partch : Plectra & Percussion Dances
Best Classical Instrumental Solo	Play (Jason Vieaux)
Best Classical Solo Vocal Album	Douce France
Best Comedy Album	Mandatory Fun
Best Compilation Soundtrack For Visual Media	Frozen
Best Contemporary Christian Music Album	Run Wild. Live Free. Love Strong.
Best Contemporary Christian Music Performance /Song	Messengers
Best Contemporary Classical Composition	Adams, John Luther : Become Ocean
Best Contemporary Instrumental Album	Bass & Mandolin
Best Country Album	Platinum (Miranda Lambert)
Best Country Duo/Group Performance	Gentle On My Mind (The Band Perry)
Best Country Solo Performance	Something In The Water (Carrier Underwood)
Best Country Song	I'm Not Gonna Miss You
Best Dance Recording	Rather Be
Best Dance/Electronic Album	Syro
Best Engineered Album, Classical	Vaughan Williams : Dona Nobis Pacem; Symphony No.4; The Lark Ascending
Best Engineered Album, Non-Classical	Morning Phase
Best Folk Album	Remedy
Best Gospel Album	Help (Erica Campbell)
Best Gospel Performance/Song	No Greater Love (Smokie Norful)
Best Historical Album	The Garden Spot Programs, 1950
Best Improvised Jazz Solo	Fingerprints (Chick Corea)
Best Instrumental Composition	The Book Thief
Best Jazz Instrumental Album	Trilogy (Chick Corea Trio)
Best Jazz Vocal Album	Beautiful Life (Dianne Reeves)

Best Large Jazz Ensemble Album	Life In The Bubble
Best Latin Jazz Album	The Offense Of The Drum
Best Latin Pop Album	Tangos (Ruben Blades)
Best Latin Rock, Urban Or Alternative Album	Multiviral (Calle 13)
Best Metal Performance	Tenacious D. (The Last In Line)
Best Music Film	20 Feet From Stardom
Best Music Video	Happy (Pharrell Williams)
Best Musical Theater Album	Beautiful : The Carole King Musical
Best New Age Album	Winds Of Samsara (Ricky Kej & Wouter Kellerman)
Best New Artist	Sam Smith
Best Opera Recording	Charpentier : La Descente D'Orphee Aux Enfers
Best Orchestral Performance	Adams, John : City Noir
Best Pop Duo/Group Performance	Say Something
Best Pop Solo Performance	Happy (Live)
Best Pop Vocal Album	In The Lonely Hour
Best R & B Album	Love, Marriage & Divorce (Toni Braxton & Babyface)
Best R & B Performance	Beyonce (Drunk In Love)
Best R & B Song	Drunk In Love
Best Rap Album	The Marshall Mathers LP2 (Eminem)
Best Rap Performance	I (Kendrick Lamar)
Best Rap Song	I
Best Rap/Sung Collaboration	The Monster
Best Recording Package	Lightning Bolt
Best Reggae Album	Fly Rasta (Ziggy Marley)
Best Regional Mexican Music Album (Including Tejano)	Mano A Mana – Tangos A La Manera De Vicente Fernandez (Vicente Fernandez)
Best Regional Roots Music Album	The Legacy
Best Remixed Recording, Non-Classical	All Of Me (Tiesto's Birthday Treatment Remix)
Best Rock Album	Morning Phase (Beck)
Best Rock Performance	Jack White
Best Rock Song	Ain't It Fun (Hayley Williams & Taylor York)
Best Roots Gospel Album	Shine For All The People (Mike Farris)
Best Score Soundtrack For Visual Media	The Grand Budapest Hotel
Best Song Written For Visual Media	Let It Go
Best Spoken Word Album (Includes Poetry, Audio Books & Storytelling)	Diary Of A Mad Diva
Best Surround Sound Album	Beyonce
Best Traditional Pop Vocal Album	Cheek To Cheek
Best Traditional R & B Performance	Jesus Children
Best Tropical Latin Album	Mas + Corazon Profundo (Carlos Vives)

Best Urban Contemporary Album	Girl (Pharrell Williams)
Best World Music Album	Eve Angelique Kidijo
Producer Of The Year, Classical	Judith Sherman
Producer Of The Year, Non-Classical	Max Martin
Record Of The Year	Sam Smith
Song Of The Year	Stay With Me (Darkchild Version)

<b>60<sup>th</sup> Britannia Filmfare Awards 2015</b>	
Best Actor	Shahid Kapoor for Haider
Best Actress	Kangana Ranaut for Queen
Best Film	Queen
Best Male Debut	Fawad Afzal Khan for Khoobsurat
Filmfare Lifetime Achievement Award	Kamini Kaushal
Best Female Debut	Kriti Sanon Heropanti

<b>ICC Awards 2014 - List of Winners</b>	
<b>PERSONS</b>	<b>AWARDS</b>
Mitchell Johnson (Australia)	Cricketer of the year (Sir Garfield sober Trophy)
Mitchell Johnson (Australia)	Test Cricketer of the Year
Sarah Taylor (England)	Women's ODI Cricketer of the Year
AB de Villiers (South Africa)	ODI Cricketer of the Year
Gary Ballance (England)	Emerging Cricketer of the year
Preston Mommsen (Scotland)	Associate and Affiliate Cricketer of the year
Aaron Finch (Australia)	Twenty20 International Performance of the Year
Meg Lanning (Australia)	T20 Women's Cricketer of the Year
Katherine Brunt (England)	Spirit of Cricket Award
Richard Kettleborough	Umpire of the year (Winning the David Shepherd Trophy)
Bhuvneshwar Kumar (India)	LG People's Choice

## **Padma Awards 2015**

<b>Padma Vibhushan</b>		
<b>Name of Persons</b>	<b>In Which Field</b>	<b>State</b>
Amitabh Bachchan	Art	Maharashtra
Dr D Veerendra Heggade	Social Work	Karnataka
Jagadguru Ramanandacharya Swami ambhadracharya	Others	Uttar Pradesh
Karim Al Hussaini Aga Khan (Foreigner)	Trade and Industry	France/UK

Kottayan K. Venugopal	Public Affairs	Delhi
LK Advani	Public Affairs	Gujarat
Mohammad Yusuf Khan alias Dilip umar	Art	Maharashtra
Prakash Singh Badal	Public Affairs	Punjab
Prof Malur Ramaswamy Srinivasan	Science and Engineering	Tamil Nadu

<b>Padma Bhushan</b>		
<b>Name of Persons</b>	<b>In Which Field</b>	<b>State</b>
Jahnu Barua	Art	Assam
Dr Vijay Bhatkar	Science and Engineering	Maharashtra
Shri Swapan Dasgupta	Literature and Education	Delhi
Swami Satyamitranand Giri	Others	Uttar Pradesh
N Gopalaswami	Civil Service	Tamil Nadu
Dr Subhash C Kashyap	Public Affairs	Delhi
Dr (Pandit) Gokulotsavji Maharaj	Art	Madhya Pradesh
Dr Ambrish Mithal	Medicine	Delhi
Sudha Ragunathan	Art	Tamil Nadu
Shri Harish Salve	Public Affairs	Delhi
Dr Ashok Seth	Medicine	Delhi
Rajat Sharma	Literature and Education	Delhi
Satpal	Sports	Delhi
Shivakumara Swami	Others	Karnataka
Dr Kharag Singh Valdiya	Science and Engineering	Karnataka
Prof Manjul Bhargava (NRI/PIO)	Science and Engineering	USA
David Frawley (Vamadeva) Foreigner)	Others	USA
Bill Gates (Foreigner)	Social Work	USA
Melinda Gates (Foreigner)	Social Work	USA
Saichiro Misumi (Foreigner)	Others	Japan

<b>Padma Shri</b>		
<b>Name of Persons</b>	<b>In Which Field</b>	<b>State</b>
Dr Manjula Anagani	Medicine	Telangana
S Arunan	Science and Engineering	Karnataka
Kanyakumari Avasarala	Art	Tamil Nadu
Dr Bettina Sharada Baumer	Literature and Education	Jammu and Kashmir
Naresh Bedi	Art	Delhi
Ashok Bhagat	Social Work	Jharkhand

Sanjay Leela Bhansali	Art	Maharashtra
Dr Lakshmi Nandan Bora	Literature and Education	Assam
Dr Gyan Chaturvedi	Literature and Education	Madhya Pradesh
Prof (Dr) Yogesh Kumar Chawla	Medicine	Chandigarh
Jayakumari Chikkala	Medicine	Delhi
Bibek Debroy	Literature and Education	Delhi
Dr Sarungbam Bimola Kumari Devi	Medicine	Manipur
Dr Ashok Gulati	Public Affairs	Delhi
Dr Randeep Guleria	Medicine	Delhi
Dr KP Haridas	Medicine	Kerala
Rahul Jain	Art	Delhi
Ravindra Jain	Art	Maharashtra
Dr Sunil Jogi	Literature and Education	Delhi
Prasoon Joshi	Art	Maharashtra
Dr Prafulla Kar	Art	Odisha
Saba Anjum	Sports	Chhattisgarh
Ushakiran Khan	Literature and Education	Bihar
Dr Rajesh Kotecha	Medicine	Rajasthan
Prof Alka Kriplani	Medicine Delhi	
Dr Harsh Kumar	Medicine	Delhi
Narayana Purushothama Mallaya	Literature & Education	Kerala
Lambert Mascarenhas	Literature and Education	Goa
Dr Janak Palta McGilligan	Social Work	Madhya Pradesh
Veerendra Raj Mehta	Social Work	Delhi
Tarak Mehta	Art	Gujarat
Neil Herbert Nongkynrih	Art	Meghalaya
Chewang Norphel	Others	Jammu and Kashmir
TV Mohandas Pai	Trade and Industry	Karnataka
Dr Tejas Patel	Medicine	Gujarat
Jadav Molai Peyang	Others	Assam
Bimla Poddar	Others	Uttar Pradesh
Dr N Prabhakar	Science and Engg	Delhi
Dr Prahalada	Science and Engg	Maharashtra
Dr Narendra Prasad	Medicine	Bihar
Ram Bahadur Rai	Literature and Education	Delhi
Mithali Raj	Sports	Telangana
PV Rajaraman	Civil Service	Tamil Nadu
Prof JS Rajput	Literature and Education	Uttar Pradesh
Kota Srinivasa Rao	Art	Andhra Pradesh

Prof Bimal Roy	Literature and Education	West Bengal
Shekhar Sen	Art	Maharashtra
Gunvant Shah	Literature and Education	Gujarat
Brahmdev Sharma	Literature and Education	Delhi
Manu Sharma	Literature and Education	Uttar Pradesh
Prof Yog Raj Sharma	Medicine	Delhi
Vasant Shastri	Science and Engg	Karnataka
SK Shivkumar	Science and Engg	Karnataka
PV Sindhu	Sports	Telangana
Sardara Singh	Sports	Haryana
Arunima Sinha	Sports	Uttar Pradesh
Mahesh Raj Soni	Art	Rajasthan
Dr Nikhil Tandon	Medicine	Delhi
H Thegtse Rinpoche	Social Work	Arunachal Pradesh
Dr Hargovind Laxmishanker Trivedi	Medicine	Gujarat
Huang Baosheng	Others	China
Prof Jacques Blamont	Science and Engg	France
Late Syedna Mohammad Burhanuddin	Others	Maharashtra (Posthumous)
Jean-Claude Carriere	Literature and Education	France
Dr Nandrajan 'Raj' Chetty	Literature and Education	France
George L Hart	Others	USA
Jagat Guru Amrta Suryananda Maha Raja	Others	Portugal
Late Meetha Lal Mehta	Social Work	Rajasthan (Posthumous)
Tripti Mukherjee	Art	USA
Dr Dattatreya Nuri	Medicine	USA
Dr Raghu Rama Pillarisetti	Medicine	USA
Dr Saumitra Rawat	Medicine	UK
Prof Annette Schmiedchen	Literature and Education	Germany
Late Pran Kumar Sharma alias Pran	Art	Delhi (Posthumous)
Late R Vasudevan	Civil Service	Tamil Nadu (Posthumous)

## Emmy Awards 2015 Winners List

Emmy Awards Winners 2015	
Outstanding Drama Series	Games of Thrones (HBO)
Outstanding Comedy Series	Veep (HBO)

Outstanding Lead Actor in Drama Series	Jon Hamm (Mad Men)
Outstanding Lead Actress in Drama Series	Viola Davis (How to Get Away with Murder)
Outstanding Lead Actor in Comedy Series	Jeffrey Tambor (Transparent)
Outstanding Lead Actress in Comedy Series	Julia Louis-Dreyfus (Veep)
Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series	Peter Dinklage (Games of Thrones)
Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Drama Series	Uzo Aduba (Orange is The New Black)
Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series	Allison Janney (Mom)
Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series	Tony Hale (Veep)
Outstanding Miniseries	Olive Kitteridge (HBO)
Outstanding Television Movie	Bessie (HBO)
Outstanding Lead Actor in a Miniseries or a Movie	Richard Jenkins (Olive Kitteridge)
Outstanding Lead Actress in a Miniseries or a Movie	Frances Mc Dormand (Olive Kitteridge)
Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Miniseries or a Movie	Bill Murray (Olive Kitteridge)
Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Miniseries or a Movie	Regina King (American Crime)
Outstanding Variety Talk Series	The Daily Show (Comedy Central)
Outstanding Writing for A Variety Series	The Daily Show (Comedy Central)
Outstanding Directing for A Variety Series	The Daily Show (Comedy Central)
Outstanding Variety Sketch Series	Inside Amy Schumer (Comedy Central)
Outstanding Reality – Competition Program	The Voice (NBC)
Outstanding Structured Reality Program	Shark Tank (ABC)
Outstanding Unstructured Reality Program	Deadliest Catch (Discovery)
Outstanding Host for A Reality or Reality Competition Program	Jane Lynch (Hollywood Game Night)
Outstanding Variety Special	The Saturday Night Live 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special (NBC)
Outstanding Guest Actor in a Drama Series	Reg E. Cathey (House of Cards)
Outstanding Guest Actress in a Drama Series	Margo Martindale (The Americans)
Outstanding Guest Actor in a Comedy Series	Bradley Whitford (Transparent)
Outstanding Guest Actress in a Comedy Series	Joan Cusack (Shameless)
Outstanding Writing for a Drama Series	Game of Thrones (Mother's Mercy) (David Benioff and D.B. Weiss)
Outstanding Writing for a Comedy Series	"Veep" -- "Election Night" (Simon Blackwell, Armando Iannucci and Tony Roche)
Outstanding Directing for a Drama Series	"Game Of Thrones" -- "Mother's Mercy" (David Nutter)

Outstanding Directing for a Drama Series	"Transparent" -- "Best New Girl" (Jill Soloway)
Outstanding Writing For a Limited Series, Movie or A Dramatic Special	"Olive Kitteridge" (Jane Anderson)
Outstanding Directing For a Limited Series, Movie or A Dramatic Special	"Olive Kitteridge" (Lisa Cholodenko)

### **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 up**

Newzealand

**Most Runs**

Martin Gaptill (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

**Nobel Prize Winners ( 2014 )**

**Peace**

**Kailash Satyarthi**

He is an Indian Children's Rights Activist. He has free over 80,000 children from various form of servitude and helped in successful in 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**

## Appointments

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

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

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

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

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

**02 Jan.** - On 02<sup>nd</sup> 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 02<sup>nd</sup> 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 05<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

**05 Jan.** - Sutirtha Bhattacharya appointed as CMD of Coal India Limited on 05<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

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

**06 Jan.** - Keshari Nath Tripathi appointed as 19<sup>th</sup> Governor of Meghalaya on 06<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

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

**10 Jan.** - On 10<sup>th</sup> January 2015, Sindhushree Khullar appointed as the CEO of NITI Aayog.

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

**12 Jan.** - On 12<sup>th</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015 succeeded by K. Radhakrishnan.

**14 Jan.** - Harishankar Brahma will become 19<sup>th</sup> Chief Election Commissioner of India on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2015. He became 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

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

**16 Jan.** - On 16<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> January 2015. The Prime Minister of Nepal is Sushil Kumar Koirala.

**17 Jan.** - On 17<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

**20 Jan.** - On 20<sup>th</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015 to attend executive committee.

**25 Jan.** - Divya Prakash Sinha appointed as Secretary in the Cabinet Secretariat on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

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

**28 Jan.** - On 28<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> January 2015 succeeded by Leela Samson.

**30 Jan.** - Hanumanthu Purushotham appointed as Chairman and Managing Director of National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) on 30<sup>th</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> January 2015 succeeded by Terry Walsh of Australia.

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

**30 Jan.** - Krishna Chaudhary appointed as Director General of Indo-Tibetan Border Police on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

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

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

**03 Feb.** - On 03<sup>rd</sup> 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 03<sup>rd</sup> 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 03<sup>rd</sup> February 2015.

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

**04 Feb.** - On 04<sup>th</sup> 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 05<sup>th</sup> February 2015. The CSIR was established in the year 1942.

**13 Feb.** - Balasubramaniam Venkataramani appointed as MD and CEO of Multi Commodity Exchange on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

**16 Feb.** - Putin Renjen appointed as CEO of Deloitte's Global Operations on 16<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

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

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

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

**26 Feb.** - On 26<sup>th</sup> 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 01<sup>st</sup> 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 02<sup>nd</sup> March 2015 while Anurag Thakur appointed Secretary of BCCI.

**02 Mar.** - Baldev Sharma appointed as Chairman of National Book Trust on 02<sup>nd</sup> March 2015.

**07 Mar.** - Ashwin Mittal appointed as Chief Financial Officer of Walmart India Private Limited on 07<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

**16 Mar.** - Ashu Suyash appointed as MD and CEO of Credit Rating Information Services of India Limited (CRISIL) on 16<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> March 2015. The President of ANOC is Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah.

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

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

**18 Mar.** - Sir Venkatraman Ramakrishnan appointed President of Britain's Royal Society on 18<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

**24 Mar.** - Ruth Porat appointed as Chief Financial Officer of Google Inc. on 24<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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 25<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

**25 Mar.** - Vikas Swarup appointed as Spokesman of Ministry of External Affairs on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

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

**01 April** - Gulshan Rai appointed as India's first ever Cyber Security Chief on 01<sup>st</sup> April 2015.

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

**04 April** - Keshari Nath Tripathi became 16<sup>th</sup> Governor of Mizoram on 04<sup>th</sup> April 2015 succeeded by Aziz Qureshi.

**06 April** - Rajeev Shukla appointed as Chairman of Indian Premier League Governing Council on 06<sup>th</sup> 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 07<sup>th</sup> 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 09<sup>th</sup> April 2015 succeeded by Gaur Hari Singhania who died on 04<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

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

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

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

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

**17 April** - Vivek Priyadarshi appointed as Head of the team probing the Indian Premiere League (IPL) scandal on 17<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> April 2015 succeeded by Ravi Sawant.

**29 April** - Mukesh Khanna appointed as Chairperson of Children's Film Society of India on 29<sup>th</sup> 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 01<sup>st</sup> May 2015 as appointed by Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.

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

**07 May** - Arvind Saxena appointed as Member of Union Public Service Commission on 07<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> May 2015 succeeded by Masayoshi Son.

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

**11 May** - K. Satish Reddy appointed as Chairman of National Safety Council on 11<sup>th</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> May 2015 succeeded by Milind Chalisgaonkar.

**12 May** - V. Shanmuganathan appointed as Governor of Meghalaya, Draupadi 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 12<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

**18 May** - Draupadi Murmu became 1<sup>st</sup> woman Governor of Jharkhand on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2015. She became 9<sup>th</sup> Governor of Jharkhand.

**19 May** - Ranjit Singh Baxi appointed as Head of Bureau of International Recycling on 19<sup>th</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> May 2015.

**22 May** - G. Mohan Kumar appointed as Defence Secretary on 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

**25 May** - Sunil D'Souza appointed as Managing Director of Whirlpool India on 25<sup>th</sup> 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 26<sup>th</sup> May 2015. Earlier, Vakkom Purushothaman resigned from the post.

**26 May** - Trevor Bayliss appointed as Head Coach of England Cricket Team on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2015. He became 1<sup>st</sup> 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 28<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> May 2015 succeeded by Akshay Rout.

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

**01 June** - Meena Hemchandra appointed as Executive Director of Reserve Bank of India on 01<sup>st</sup> June 2015.

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

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

**01 June** - Pawan Munjal appointed as CMD of Hero MotoCorp. Ltd. on 01<sup>st</sup> 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 01<sup>st</sup> 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 01<sup>st</sup> 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 01<sup>st</sup> June 2015 succeeded by MYS Prasad.

**01 June** - Putin Renjen appointed as CEO of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited on 01<sup>st</sup> 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 02<sup>nd</sup> 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 03<sup>rd</sup> 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 04<sup>th</sup> June 2015 succeeded by Nidoo.

**05 June** - R. Seshasayee appointed as Non-Executive Chairman of Infosys Limited on 05<sup>th</sup> 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 06<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

**07 June** - R.C. Tayal appointed as Director General of National Security Guard on 07<sup>th</sup> 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 08<sup>th</sup> June 2015. He is former Chairman of Central Board of Direct Taxes.

**08 June** - Vijai Sharma appointed as Chief Information Commissioner on 08<sup>th</sup> 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 09<sup>th</sup> 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 09<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015 succeeded by Dr.Bimal K. Roy. She became 1<sup>st</sup> woman to lead the Institute.

**15 June** - Kapil Mishra appointed as Chairman of Delhi Jal Board on 15<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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 25<sup>th</sup> June 2015 succeeded by P.K. Gupta.

**25 June** - Ujjwal Batria appointed as CEO of Lafarge India on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2015 succeeded by Martin Krieger.

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

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

Chandrasekaran Ramakrishnan appointed as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Tata Motors Group on 01<sup>st</sup> 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 01<sup>st</sup> 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 01<sup>st</sup> July 2015.

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

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

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

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

Ashok K. Lahiri will become 1<sup>st</sup> Chairman of Bandhan Bank which will be open soon as announced by its Board of Directors on 09<sup>th</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> July 2015. He is famous Lawyer.

Lt. General Manmohan Singh Rai appointed as Vice-Chief of Indian Army on 13<sup>th</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015. Its Headquarter is situated at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

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

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

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

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

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

Roelant Oltmans appointed as Chief Coach of Indian Hockey Team on 25<sup>th</sup> 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 03<sup>rd</sup> August 2015 succeeded by Eberhard Kern.

Justice Iqbal Ahmed Ansari appointed as acting Chief Justice of Patna High Court on 03<sup>rd</sup> 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 06<sup>th</sup> August 2015.

Ram Nath Kovind appointed as Governor of Bihar on 08<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> August 2015. It is the 6<sup>th</sup> largest IT Company in India and incorporated in the year 1997.

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

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

Om Prakash Rawat appointed as Election Commissioner of India on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2015.

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

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

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

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

Ashwani Lohani appointed as Chief of Air India on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2015.

Amitabh Mattoo appointed as Advisor to J&K Chief Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed on 21<sup>st</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> August 2015.

Justice Madanlal Laxmandas Tahaliyani (M.L. Tahaliyani) appointed as Lokayukta of the State of Maharashtra on 24<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> August 2015.

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

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

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

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

Rajiv Mangla appointed as CTO of Snapdeal on 26<sup>th</sup> 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 27<sup>th</sup> August 2015.

Al Rajwani appointed as Managing Director of Gillette India on 29<sup>th</sup> 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. adds
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**

- BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multisectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation Countries )
- It has 8 members Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan, Nepal
- BIMSTEC 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 Netherlands 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 radioactive source.
- The first Nuclear Summit was held in Washington.
- 4th Nuclear Summit 2016 will be 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, Venezuela.

## **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 Kuriyann elected to **Royal Society**

of London on 30 April, 2015.

4. After spending of **804 days on International Space Station (ISS)**, The **Russian Cosmonaut Gennedy 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 **Parliament's 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 Rajkhowa** 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. Gowariker, the former Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation, died on 02<sup>nd</sup> January 2015. He was also known as the 'Father of the Indian Monsoon Model'.

**08 Jan.** - Perin Romesh Chandra, the freedom fighter, died on 08<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

**18 Jan.** - Paladugu Venkata Rao, the former Minister of Andhra Pradesh, died on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

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

**26 Jan.** - R.K. Laxman, the famous Cartoonist of India, died on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

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

**28 Jan.** - Jaswant Singh Rajput, the famous Hockey Olympian, died on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

**29 Jan.** - Subhash Ghising, President of Gorkha National Liberation Front, died on 29<sup>th</sup> 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 02<sup>nd</sup> February 2015.

**04 Feb.** - Gaur Hari Singhania, the Chairman of J.K. Group, died on 04<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

**15 Feb.** - Dr. Kalim Ahmed Ajiz, the famous Urdu Poet, died on 15<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> February 2015. He was the leader of Nationalist Congress Party (NCP).

**17 Feb.** - Ashraful Haque, the Bollywood Actor, died on 17<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

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

**26 Feb.** - Hukam Singh, the former Chief Minister of Haryana, died on 26<sup>th</sup> 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 06<sup>th</sup> March 2015. He was remained Chief Minister of Bihar from 01<sup>st</sup> April 1979 to 17<sup>th</sup> February 1980.

**G. Karthikeyan died on 07<sup>th</sup> March**

**07 Mar.** - G. Karthikeyan, Kerala Legislative Assembly Speaker died on 07<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

**Vinod Mehta died on 08<sup>th</sup> March**

**08 Mar.** - Vinod Mehta, the famous Journalist, died on 08<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> March 2015. He was from Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and was the member from 15<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha.

**Sir Terence David John Pratchett died**

**12 Mar.** - Sir Terence David John Pratchett, the famous Author, died on 12<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> March 2015. He was 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> March 2015. He was remained President of Akhil Bharatiya Marathi Natya Sammelan.

**Lee Kuan Yew died on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015**

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

**Kailash Vajpeyi died on 01<sup>st</sup> April**

**01 April** - Kailash Vajpeyi, the famous Hindi poet, died on 01<sup>st</sup> 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 08<sup>th</sup> 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 09<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

**Former Australia Cricket Captain died**

**10 April** - Richie Benaud, the former Australia Cricket Captain, died on 10<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> April 2015. He was awarded with Mahavir Chakra. He was the founder of Shivbala Yogi Ashram Parisar in Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

**Gunter Grass died on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2015**

**13 April** - Gunter Grass, the famous German Novelist, died on 13<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> April 2015. He was the youngest Prime Minister of Czech Republic while became at the age of 34.

**Janaki Ballabh Patnaik died on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2015**

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

**Andrew Lesnie died on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2015**

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

**29 April** - Bimba Modak, the famous Marathi actress, died on 29<sup>th</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 01<sup>st</sup> 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 03<sup>rd</sup> 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 03<sup>rd</sup> May 2015. He was the Member of Parliament of 7<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha from Rosera, Samastipur, Bihar.

**Lu Ping died**

**03 May** - Lu Ping, the famous diplomat of China, died on 03<sup>rd</sup> 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 05<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> May 2015. He is known for books Enlightenment etc.

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

**Sudha Shivpuri died**

**20 May** - Sudha Shivpuri, the famous actress, died on 20<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> May 2015. He was the Policy Advisor in UPA Government.

**Bob Belden died**

**20 May** - Bob Belden, famous jazz musician, died on 20<sup>th</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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 01<sup>st</sup> 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 02<sup>nd</sup> June 2015. He won Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

**Sir Christopher Lee died**

**07 June** - Sir Christopher Lee, the famous Actor of Britain, died on 07<sup>th</sup> 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 08<sup>th</sup> June 2015. He received Central Sahitya Academy Award.

**Hemant Kantikar died**

**09 June** - Hemant Kantikar, the former Cricketer of India, died on 09<sup>th</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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 03<sup>rd</sup> 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 03<sup>rd</sup> 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 04<sup>th</sup> July 2015. He wrote the famous novel namely 'Udas Naslain'.

**09 July - Bashar Navaaz died**

Bashar Navaaz, the famous poet of Urdu language, died on 09<sup>th</sup> 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 09<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> July 2015. He was also remained the President of West Bengal Badminton Association. Manayagath Subramanian Viswanathan, the famous Tamil music composer, died on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

**14 July - Olaf Pooley died**

Olaf Pooley, the famous Hollywood actor, died on 14<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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 26<sup>th</sup> 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

27<sup>th</sup> July 2015. He was 11<sup>th</sup> 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 03<sup>rd</sup> 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 04<sup>th</sup> August 2015. He was officer-in-charge of flag hosting ceremony of 1<sup>st</sup> 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 09<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2015.

### **30 Aug - M.M. Kalburgi died**

M.M. Kalburgi, the famous Kannada writer and Sahitya Academy awardee, died on 30<sup>th</sup> 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.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Countries involved and explanations</b>
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
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 and control implementation.
Yudh Abhyas 2014	Combined military training exercise of India-USA.

**CABINET MINISTERS**

<b>Name of the Minister</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Contituency</b>
1. Narendra Modi	Prime Minister Department of Personnel and Training, Public Grievances and Pensions, Space and Atomic energy	Varanasi (UP)
2. Rajnath Singh	Home Affairs	Lucknow (UP)
3. Arun Jaitley	Finance, Corporate affairs, information and broadcasting	Gujarat (Rajya Sabha)
4. Sushma Swaraj	External Affairs,	Vidisha (MP)
5. M. Venkaih Naidu	Urban Development, Housing and Urban Poverty alleviation	Karnataka (Rajya Sabha)
6. Nitin Gadkari	Transport and shipping	Nagpur (Maharashtra)
7. Suresh Prabhu	Railways	Haryana (Rajya Sabha)
8. Manohar Parrikar	Defence	Uttar Pradesh (Rajya Sabha)
9. D V Sadananda Gowda	Law and Justice	Bangalore North (Karnataka)
10. Uma Bharti	Water resources, ganga rejuvenation	Jhansi (UP)
11. Najma Heptullah (oldest in the cabinet)	Minority Affairs	MP (Rajya Sabha)

12. Kalraj Mishra	Micro, small and medium enterprises	Deoria (UP)
13. Ramvilas Paswan	Consumer affairs, food and public distribution	Hajipur (Bihar)
14. Maneka Gandhi	Women and Child Development	Pilibhit (UP)
15. Ananth Kumar	Chemicals and fertilizers	Bangalore South (Karnataka)
16. Ravi Shankar Prasad	Communications and IT	Bihar (Rajya Sabha)
17. J P Nadda	Health and Family Welfare	Himachal Pradesh (Rajya Sabha)
18. Ashok Gajapathi Raju	Civil Aviation	Vizianagaram (AP)
19. Anant Geete (only cabinet member of NDA ally Shiv Sena)	Heavy industries	Raigad (Maharashtra)
20. Harsimrat Kaur Badal	Food Processing	Bhatinda (Punjab)
21. Narendra Singh Tomar	Mines and Steel	Gwalior (MP)
22. Smriti Irani	HRD	Gujarat (Rajya Sabha)
23. Chaudhury Birender Singh	Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Drinking water and sanitation	Resigned from Rajya Sabha in 2014
24. Jual Oram	Tribal affairs	Sundargarh (Odisha)
25. Radha Mohan Singh	Agriculture	Purvi Champaran (Bihar)
26. Thwar Chand Gehlot	Social Justice and Empowerment	MP (Rajya Sabha)
27. Harsh Vardhan	Science and Technology, Earth Sciences	Chandni Chowk (Delhi)

***For Ministers of state, generally questions are asked from the ones who have a ministry under his control i.e. the big boss of the ministry***

Name of the Minister	Department	Constituency
1. Santosh Gangwar	Textiles	Barielly (Uttar Pradesh)

2. Bandaru Dattatreya	Labour and Employment	Secunderabad (Telangana)
3. Rajiv Pratap Rudy	Skill development and Entrepreneurship	Saran (Bihar)
4. Shripad Naik	AYUSH	North Goa
5. Dharmendra Pradhan	Petroleum and natural gas	Bihar (Rajya Sabha)
6. Sarbanada Sonwal	Sports and youth affairs	Lakhimpur (Assam)
7. Prakash Javadekar	Environment and forests	MP (Rajya Sabha)
8. Piyush Goyal	Power, coal, renewable energy	Maharashtra (Rajya Sabha)
9. Jitendra Singh	North east development	Udhampur (J & K)
10. Nirmala Sitharaman	Commerce and industry	Andhra Pradesh (Rajya Sabha)
11. Mahesh Sharma	Culture and tourism	Gautam buddha Nagar

## 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.

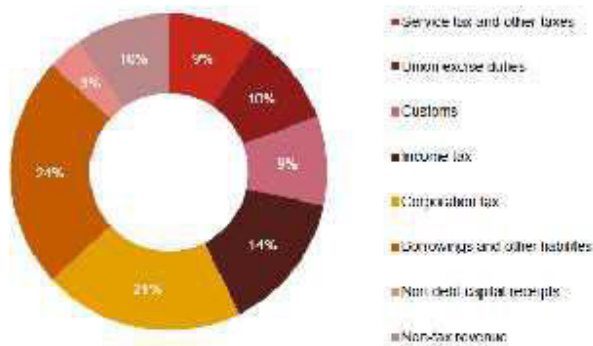
Health insurance is not so popular and people in middle class don't avail policy of Rs.20,000 per annum.

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

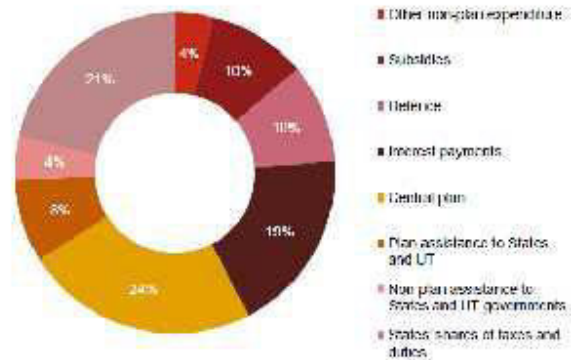
### Financial sector

- 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.34,6999 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 Samriddhi account will also be tax free.
- Health insurance limit increased under section 80D. For individual, children and spouse it increased from Rs.15,000 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. Swach Bharat cess of 2% introduced on service tax.
- Services provided by Mutual fund agent or distributor removed from negative list

<b>BUDGET AT A GLANCE</b>				
 (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	<b>11,41,575</b>
Capital Receipts	5,44,723	6,05,129	5,54,864	<b>6,35,902</b>
Total Receipts	15,59,447	17,94,892	16,81,158	<b>17,77,477</b>
Non-Plan Expenditure	11,06,120	12,19,892	12,13,224	<b>13,12,200</b>
Plan Expenditure	4,53,327	5,75,000	4,67,934	<b>4,65,277</b>
Total Expenditure	15,59,447	17,94,892	16,81,158	<b>17,77,477</b>
Revenue Deficit	3,57,048	3,78,348	3,62,486	<b>3,94,472</b>
Effective Revenue Deficit	2,27,630	2,10,244	2,30,588	<b>2,83,921</b>
Fiscal Deficit	5,02,858	5,31,177	5,12,628	<b>5,55,649</b>
Primary Deficit	1,28,604	1,04,166	1,01,274	<b>99,504</b>
PIB/KBK				

### **Railway Budet 2015-16 - Analysis and Highlights**

This year's Railway budget speech was a heavy dose of honesty. Railway minster 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 minster 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)

## Important Indian Organizations and their Heads

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 <sup>th</sup> 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. Chandrashekhar	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!

#### **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 Whatsapp 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.

<b>Name of the Act</b>	<b>Year of Promulgation</b>
Societies' Registration Act	1860
Negotiable Instruments Act	1881
Co-operative Societies Act	1912
Provident Funds Act	1925
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
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, <b>SARFAESI Act</b> )	2002
Government Securities Act	2006
Securities Laws (Amendment) Act	2014
The Regional Rural Banks (Amendment) Act- <b>Diluted the sharing pattern by limiting the composite share of central govt. and sponsor bank to 51%</b>	2014
The Insurance Laws (Amendment) Act- <b>Pushed FDI limit to 49%</b>	2015

## **List of important days**

### **Important days / dates – National and International - India and World**

#### **Important days / dates in January:**

January 01 : Global family day.

January 09 : NRI Day.

January 10 : World laughter day.

January 12 : National Youth Day.

January 15 : Army Day.

January 23: Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose birthday

January 26 : India's Republic Day

January 26 : International Customs day.

January 28 : Lala Lajpat Rai birthday

January 28 : Data protection day

January 30 : Martyrs' Day

January 30 : World Leprosy Eradication Day

#### **Important days / dates in February:**

February 04 : World Cancer Day

February 06 : International Day Against Female Genital Mutilation

February 12 : Darwin Day

February 12 : World Day of the Sick.

February 13 : Sarojini Naidu's birthday

February 14 : Valentine's Day

February 20 : World Day of Social Justice

February 21 : International Mother Language Day

February 22 : World scout day

February 23 : World peace and understanding day

February 24 : Central Excise Day.

February 28 : National Science Day.

**Important days / dates in March:**

March 4 : World day of fight against sexual exploitation, National Security day.

March 8 : International Women's Day

March 13 : World kidney day

March 15 :World Disabled Day

March 15 : World consumer right day.

March 20 : World day of theatre for children and young people.

March 20 : International day for Francophonie

March 20 : World Sleep day

March 21 : World Forestry Day.

March 21 :International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

March 22 : World water day

March 23 :World Meteorological Day.

March 24 : World T.B. day

March 24 : International day for achievers

March 25 : International day of remembrance-victims of slavery and transatlantic slave trade

March 27 : World Drama day

**Important days / dates in April:**

April 2 : World autism day

April 5 : National Maritime Day.

April 7 :World Health Day.

April 17 : World haemophilia day

April 18 :World Heritage Day.

April 22 :Earth Day.

April 23 : World book and copyright day

April 25 : World Malaria day

April 29 : International Dance day

### **Important days / dates in May**

May 1 : International Labour Day (Workers Day)

May 3 :Press Freedom Day.

May 4 : Coal miner's day

May (2nd Sunday) : Mother's Day

May 8 :World Red Cross Day.

May 9 : Victory day

May 11 : National Technology Day.

May 12 : International Nurses day

May 14 : World Migratory day

May 15 : International Day of the Family.

May 17 :World Telecommunication Day (Information society day)

May 21 : Anti-terrorism day

May 24 :Commonwealth Day.

May 31 :Anti-Tobacco Day.

### **Important days / dates in June:**

June 4 :International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression.

June 5 : World Environment Day.

June 7 : International level crossing awareness day

June 8 : World ocean day

June 12 : World day against child labour

June(2nd Sunday) : Father's Day.

June 14 : World blood donor day

June 17 : World day to combat desertification and drought

June 20 : World Refugee day.

June 21 : Father's day, World Music day.

June 23 : United Nation's public service day

June 23 : International Widow's day

June 26 : International day against Drug abuse & Illicit Trafficking.

June 27 : World Diabetes Day.

### **Important days / dates in July:**

July 1 : National Doctor's day.

July 6 : World Zoonosis Day.

July 11 : World Population Day.

July 12 : World Malala day

July 18 : Nelson Mandela International day

July 28 : World Nature conservation day

### **Important days / dates in August:**

August 2 : International Friendship Day.

August 3 : Independence day of Niger

August 5 : Independence day of upper volta

August 6 :Hiroshima Day

August 9 : International day of World's indigenous people

August 9 :Quit India Day and Nagasaki Day.

August 12 : International Youth day

August 15 : Independence Day of India

August 23 : International day for the remembrance of the slave trade and its abolition

August 29 : National Sports Day.

### **Important days / dates in September:**

September 5 : Teachers' Day (Dr. Radhakrishnan's birthday)

September 5 : Forgiveness day

September 8 :World Literacy Day.

September 14 : Hindi day, World first aid day

September 16 :World Ozone Day. Engineer's day in India

September 21 :Alzheimer's Day, International day of peace

September 25 : Social justice day

September 26 : Day of the Deaf.

September 27 : World Tourism Day.

### **Important days / dates in October:**

October 1 : International day of the Older person

October 2 : Mahatma Gandhi birthday, International day of non-violence

October 3 :World Habitat Day, World nature day

October 4 :World Animal Welfare Day.

October 5 : World Teacher's day.

October 8 : Indian Air Force Day.

October 9 : World Post Office day.

October 10 : National Post Day.

October 11 : International girl child day

October 12 : World Arthritis day.

October 13 : UN International Day for National disaster reduction.

October 14 : World Standards Day.

October 15 : World White Cane Day( guiding the Blind)

October 16 : World Food Day.

October 17 : International day for the eradication of poverty.

October 20 : World statistics day

October 24 : UN Day, World development information Day.

October 30 : World Thrift Day.

### **Important days / dates in November:**

November 1 : World vegan day

November 5 : World Radiography day.

November 9 : World services day

November 14 : Children's Day in India, Jawaharlal Nehru birthday

November 16 : International day for Endurance

November 17 : World Student day, National Journalism day

November 18 : World Adult day.

November 19 : World Citizen day.

November 20 : Africa Industrialization Day, Universal children day.

November 21 : World Television day, World Fisheries day.

November 25 : World Non-veg day.

November 26 : Law day

November 29 : International Day of Solidarity with Palestinian People.

November 30 : Flag day.

### **Important days / dates in December:**

December 1 : World Aids Day.

December 2 : World Computer literacy day, International day of abolition of slavery

December 3 : International day of People with disabilities, World conservation day

December 4 : Navy Day.

December 5 : International volunteer day for economic and social development.

December 7 : Armed Forces Flag Day, International civil aviation day.

December 9 : The International day against corruption.

December 10 : Human Right Day.

December 11 : International Mountain day.

December 14 : International Energy day.

December 18 : International Migrants day.

December 19 : Goa's liberation day.

December 20 : International Human solidarity.

December 23 : Kisan Divas Farmer's Day).

December 29 : International Bio-diversity day

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

### 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
Gujarat	Gandhinagar	Anandiben Patel	Om Prakash Kohli
Haryana	Chandigarh	Manohar Lal Khattar	Kaptan Singh Solanki
Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	Virbhadr Singh	Acharya Dev Vrat
Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar (Summer), Jammu (Winter)	Mufti Mohammad Sayeed	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 Fadnis	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	Bhubaneswar	Naveen Patnaik	S. C. Jamir
Puducherry	Pondicherry	N.Rangaswamy	A. K. Singh
Punjab	Chandigarh	Prakash Singh Badal	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. Chandrashekhara Rao	E. S. L. Narasimhan
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.

Sr. No.	Union Territory	Name	Position
1	Andaman and Nicobar Island	A.K.Singh	Lieutenant Governor
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 / Lieutenant Governor
6	Lakshadweep	H.Rajesh Prasad	"
7	Puducherry	A.K.Singh	Lieutenant Governor

### **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	Jim Yong	July, 1944	188	Crediting, Working

	D.C. (U.S.A.)	Kim		(IBRD), 172 (IDA)	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
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	Geneva Switzerland	Guy Ryder	1919	186	

Organization (ILO)					
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 (UNCDF)	New York		1966	For 48 least developed countries	Eradicate extreme hunger poverty, 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

## Wild Life Sanctuaries in India

S.No.	WILD LIFE SANCTUARIES IN INDIA	LOCATION	Area
1.	Dachigam Wildlife Sanctuary	Jammu and Kashmir	141km <sup>2</sup>
2.	Jim Corbett National Park	Uttrakhand	1318.54 km <sup>2</sup> (including core area 520 km <sup>2</sup> and buffer area 797.72 km <sup>2</sup> )
3.	Sunderbans Wildlife Sanctuary	West Bengal	10,000 km <sup>2</sup> (60% in Bangladesh and Remainder in India)
4.	Manas Wildlife Sanctuary	Assam	950 km <sup>2</sup>
5.	Kaziranga National Park	Assam	430 km <sup>2</sup>
6.	Ranthambore National Park	Rajasthan	392 km <sup>2</sup>
7.	Keoladeo Bird Sanctuary / Bharatpur National Park	Rajasthan	29 km <sup>2</sup>
8.	Sasan Gir National Park	Gujarat	1,412 km <sup>2</sup>
9.	Kanha National Park	Madhya Pradesh	940 km <sup>2</sup>
10.	Periyar Wild Life Sanctuary	Kerala	305 km <sup>2</sup>
11.	Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	0.3 km <sup>2</sup>
12.	Sariska National Park	Rajasthan	866 km <sup>2</sup>
13.	Mundanthurai Wildlife Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	895 km <sup>2</sup>
14.	Annamalai Wildlife Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	958 km <sup>2</sup>
15.	Campbell Bay National Park	Great Nicobar Island	426 km <sup>2</sup>
16.	Dudhwa National Park	Uttar Pradesh	490.3 km <sup>2</sup>
17.	Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve	Uttrakhand	630.33 km <sup>2</sup>
18.	Hemis National Park	Jammu & Kashmir	4,400 km <sup>2</sup>
19.	Bandhavgarh National Park	Madhya Pradesh	446 km <sup>2</sup>
20.	Pench National Park	Madhya Pradesh	257 km <sup>2</sup>
21.	Kanchendzonga National Park	Sikkim	1,784 km <sup>2</sup>
22.	Bandipur National Park	Karnataka	874 km <sup>2</sup>
23.	Wandur National Park/ Mahatama Gandhi Marine National Park	Andaman Island	281.5 km <sup>2</sup>
24.	Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary	Karnataka	866.41 km <sup>2</sup>
25.	Valley Of Flowers National Park	Uttarakhand	87.50 km <sup>2</sup>
26.	Panna National Park	Madhya Pradesh	542.67 km <sup>2</sup>
27.	Balpakram National Park	Meghalaya	200 km <sup>2</sup>
28.	Similipal National Park	Odisha	2,750 km <sup>2</sup>
29.	Kudremukh National Park	Karnataka	600.32 km <sup>2</sup>
30.	Eravikulam National Park	Kerala	97 km <sup>2</sup>

31.	Bannerghatta National Park	Karnataka	104.3 km <sup>2</sup>
32.	Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary	Kerala	90.44 km <sup>2</sup>
33.	Dibru Saikhowa Wildlife Sanctuary	Assam	350 km <sup>2</sup>
34.	National Chambal Sanctuary	Rajasthan	5,400 km <sup>2</sup>
35.	Orang National Park	Assam	78.81 km <sup>2</sup>
36.	Nameri National Park	Assam	200 km <sup>2</sup>
37.	Gorumara National Park	West Bengal	80 km <sup>2</sup>
38.	Nokrek National Park	Meghalaya	47.48 km <sup>2</sup>
39.	Namdapha National Park	Arunachal Pradesh	1,985 km <sup>2</sup>
40.	Gulf Of Kutch National Park	Gujarat	162.9 km <sup>2</sup>
41.	Silent Valley National Park	Kerala	236.74 km <sup>2</sup>
42.	Gulf Of Mannar Marine National Park	Tamil Nadu	560 km <sup>2</sup>
43.	Betla National Park	Jharkhand	979 km <sup>2</sup> approx.
44.	Desert National Park	Rajasthan	3,162 km <sup>2</sup>
45.	Harike Wetland	Panjab	41 km <sup>2</sup>
46.	South Button Island National Park	Andaman Islands	5 km <sup>2</sup>
47.	Eturnagaram Wildlife Sanctuary	Telangana	812 km <sup>2</sup>
48.	Bhimbandh Wildlife Sanctuary	Bihar	681.99 km <sup>2</sup>
49.	Palamau Tiger Reserve	Jharkhand	1,026 km <sup>2</sup>
50.	Mudumalai National Park	Tamil Nadu	321 km <sup>2</sup>
51.	Galathea National Park	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	110 km <sup>2</sup>
52.	Middle Button Island National Park	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	64 km <sup>2</sup>
53.	Interview Island Wildlife Sanctuary	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	133 km <sup>2</sup> approx.
54.	Landfall Island Wildlife Sanctuary	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	29.28 km <sup>2</sup>
55.	Nagarjunsagar-Srisailem Tiger Reserve	Andhra Pradesh	3,568 km <sup>2</sup>
56.	Koundinya Wildlife Sanctuary	Andhra Pradesh	357.6 km <sup>2</sup>
57.	Pulicat Lake Bird Sanctuary	At the border of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu	481 km <sup>2</sup>
58.	Pocharam Forest & Wildlife Sanctuary	Telangana	130 km <sup>2</sup>
59.	Pakhui Tiger Reserve	Arunachal Pradesh	862 km <sup>2</sup>
60.	Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary	Arunachal Pradesh	218 km <sup>2</sup>
61.	Hoollongapar Gibbon Sanctuary	Assam	20.99 km <sup>2</sup>
62.	Pong Dam Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh	475 km <sup>2</sup>
63.	Sharavathi Valley Wildlife Sanctuary	Karnataka	431 km <sup>2</sup>
64.	Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary	Madhya Pradesh	1,197 km <sup>2</sup>
65.	Gangotri National Park	Uttarakhand	2,390 km <sup>2</sup>
66.	Palani Hills Wildlife Sanctuary and National	Tamil Nadu	737 km <sup>2</sup>

	Park		
67.	Rajaji National Park	Uttarakhand	820 km <sup>2</sup>
68.	Nagarahole National Park	Karnataka	642.39 km <sup>2</sup>
69.	Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve	Maharashtra	625.4 km <sup>2</sup>
70.	Papikonda National Park	Andhra Pradesh	1,012.86 km <sup>2</sup>
71.	Valmiki National Park	Bihar	Forest area is about 900 km <sup>2</sup> out of which the Valmiki Sanctuary is 880km <sup>2</sup> and spread of the National Park is about 335km <sup>2</sup>
72.	Pakhal Wildlife Sanctuary	Telangana	860 km <sup>2</sup>
73.	Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary	Telangana	635.40 km <sup>2</sup>
74.	Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary	Bihar	1,342 km <sup>2</sup>
75.	Changtang Wildlife Sanctuary	Jammu & Kashmir	4,000 km <sup>2</sup>
76.	Sathyamangalam Wildlife Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	1,411.6 km <sup>2</sup>
77.	Askot Musk Deer Sanctuary	Uttarakhand	599.93 km <sup>2</sup>
78.	Dibang Wildlife Sanctuary	Arunachal Pradesh	4,149 km <sup>2</sup>
79.	SonaiRupai Wildlife Sanctuary	Assam	175 km <sup>2</sup>
80.	Achanakmar Wildlife Sanctuary	Chhattisgarh	551.55 km <sup>2</sup>
81.	Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary	Gujarat	607.70 km <sup>2</sup>
82.	Indian Wild Ass Sanctuary	Gujarat	4,954 km <sup>2</sup>
83.	Narayan Sarovar Sanctuary	Gujarat	444.23 km <sup>2</sup>
84.	BiligirirangaSwamy Temple Wildlife Sanctuary	Karnataka	540 km <sup>2</sup>
85.	Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary	Karnataka	526.96 km <sup>2</sup>
86.	Ratapani Tiger Reserve	Madhya Pradesh	688 km <sup>2</sup>
87.	TamorPingla Wildlife Sanctuary	Chhattisgarh	608.55 km <sup>2</sup>
88.	Bhadra Wildlife Sanctuary	Karnataka	492.46 km <sup>2</sup>
89.	Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary	Kerala	285 km <sup>2</sup>
90.	Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary	Maharashtra	423.55 km <sup>2</sup>
91.	Gautala Autramghat Sanctuary	Maharashtra	260 km <sup>2</sup>
92.	Nalbana Bird Sanctuary	Odisha	15.53 km <sup>2</sup>
93.	Sita Mata Wildlife Sanctuary	Rajasthan	422.95 km <sup>2</sup>
94.	Shenbagathoppu Grizzled Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	480 km <sup>2</sup>
95.	Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary	Bihar	50 km stretch of Ganges River
96.	Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve	Madhya Pradesh	4926.28km <sup>2</sup>

### Indian Cities on the Bank of Important Rivers

City	River	State
Agra	Yamuna	Uttar Pradesh
Ahmedabad	Sabarmati	Gujarat
Allahabad	Ganges	Uttar Pradesh
Ayodhya	Saryu	Uttar Pradesh
Badrinath	Ganges	Uttarakhand
Kolkata	Hooghly	West Bengal
Cuttack	Mahanadi	Odisha
New Delhi	Yamuna	Delhi
Dibrugarh	Brahmaputra	Assam
Ferozpur	Sutlej	Punjab
Guwahati	Brahmaputra	Assam
Haridwar	Ganges	Uttarkhand
Hyderabad	Musi	Telangana
Jabalpur	Narmada	Madhya Pradesh
Kanpur	Ganges	Uttar Pradesh
Kota	Chambal	Rajasthan
Jaunpur	Gomti	Uttar Pradesh
Patna	Ganges	Bihar
Rajahmundry	Godavari	Andhra Pradesh
Srinagar	Jhelum	Jammu & Kashmir
Surat	Tapti	Gujarat
Tiruchirapalli	Kaveri	Tamil Nadu
Varanasi	Ganges	Uttar Pradesh
Vijayawada	Krishna	Andhra Pradesh
Vadodara	Vishwamitri	Gujarat
Mathura	Yamuna	Uttar Pradesh
Auraiya	Yamuna	Uttar Pradesh
Etawah	Yamuna	Uttar Pradesh
Bangalore	Vrishabhavathi	Karnataka
Farrukhabad	Ganges	Uttar Pradesh
Fatehgarh	Ganges	Uttar Pradesh
Kannauj	Ganges	Uttar Pradesh
Mangalore	Netravati, Gurupura	Karnataka
Shimoga	Tunga River	Karnataka
Bhadravathi	Bhadra	Karnataka

<b>City</b>	<b>River</b>	<b>State</b>
Hospet	Tungabhadra	Karnataka
Karwar	Kali	Karnataka
Bagalkot	Ghataprabha	Karnataka
Honnavar	Sharavathi	Karnataka
Gwalior	Chambal	Madhya Pradesh
Gorakhpur	Rapti	Uttar Pradesh
Lucknow	Gomti	Uttar Pradesh
Kanpur Cantonment	Ganges	Uttar Pradesh
Shuklaganj	Ganges	Uttar Pradesh
Chakeri	Ganges	Uttar Pradesh
Malegaon	Girna River	Maharashtra
Sambalpur	Mahanadi	Odisha
Rourkela	Brahmani	Odisha
Pune	Mula, Mutha	Maharashtra
Daman	Daman Ganga River	Daman
Madurai	Vaigai	Tamil Nadu
Thiruchirapalli	Kaveri	Tamil Nadu
Chennai	Cooum, Adyar	Tamil Nadu
Coimbatore	Noyyal	Tamil Nadu
Erode	Kaveri	Tamil Nadu
Tirunelveli	Thamirabarani	Tamil Nadu
Bharuch	Narmada	Gujarat
Karjat	Ulhas	Maharashtra
Nashik	Godavari	Maharashtra
Mahad	Savitri	Maharashtra
Nanded	Godavari	Maharashtra
Nellore	Pennar	Andhra Pradesh
Nizamabad	Godavari	Andhrapradesh
Sangli	Krishna	Maharashtra
Karad	Krishna, Koyna	Maharashtra
Hajipur	Ganges	Bihar
Ujjain	Shipra	Madhya Pradesh

### Important Cities of the world on the bank of Important Rivers

City	Country	River
Adelaide	Australia	Torrens
Amsterdam	Netherlands	Amsel
Alexandria	Egypt	Nile
Ankara	Turkey	Kazil
Allahabad	India	At the confluence of the Ganga and Yamuna
Agra	India	Yamuna
Ayodhya	India	Saryu
Ahmedabad	India	Sabarmati
Badrinath	India	Alaknanda
Bareilly	India	Ram Ganga
Bangkok	Thailand	Chao Praya
Basra	Iraq	Euphrates and Tigris
Baghdad	Iraq	Tigris
Berlin	Germany	Spree
Bonn	Germany	Rhine
Budapest	Hungary	Daunbe
Bristol	U. K.	Avon
Buenos Aires	Argentina	Laplata
Cuttack	India	Mahanadi
Curnool	India	Tungabhadra
Chittagong	Bangladesh	Majyani
Canton	China	Si-Kiang
Cairo	Egypt	Nile
Chung King	China	Yang-tse-King
Cologne	Germany	Rhine
Delhi	India	Yamuna
Dandzing	Germany	Vistula
Dresden	Germany	Elve
Dibrugarh	India	Brahmaputra
Dublin	Ireland	Liffy
Ferozpur	India	Satluj
Guwahati	India	Brahmaputra

Hardwar	India	Ganga
Hyderabad	India	Musi
Hamburg	Germany	Elbe
Jabalpur	India	Narmada
Jamshedpur	India	Swarnarekha
Jaunpur	India	Gomti
Kabul	Afghanistan	Kabul
Karachi	Pakistan	Indus
Kanpur	India	Ganga
Kota	India	Chambal
Kolkata	India	Hooghly
Khartoum	Sudan	Confluence of Blue and white Nile
Lahore	Pakistan	Ravi
Leningrad	Russia	Neva
Lucknow	India	Gomti
Lisbon	Portugal	Tagus
Liverpool	England	Messey
Ludhiana	India	Satluj
London	England	Thames
Mathura	India	Yamuna
Moscow	Russia	Moskva
Montreal	Canada	St. Lawrence
Nanking	China	Yang-tse-Kiang
New Orleans	U.S.A.	Mississippi
Nasik	India	Godavari
New York	U.S.A.	Hudson
Ottawa	Canada	Ottawa
Patna	India	Ganga
Paris	France	Seine
Philadelphia	U.S.A.	Delaware
Perth	Australia	Swan
Panjim	India	Mandavi
Prague	Czech Republic	Vitava
Quebec	Canada	St. Lawrence
Rome	Italy	Tiber

Rotterdam	The Netherlands	New Mass
Stalingrad	Russia	Volga
Shanghai	China	Yang-tse-Kiang
Sidney	Australia	Darling
Srinagar	India	Jhelum
Surat	India	Tapti
Sambalpur	India	Mahanadi
Serirangapatam	India	Cauvery
Saint Luis	U.S.A.	Mississippi
Tiruchurapalli	India	Cauvery
Tokyo	Japan	Arakava
Ujjain	India	Kshipra
Vijayvada	India	Krishna
Varanasi	India	Ganga
Vienna	Australia	Danube
Warsaw	Poland	Vistula
Washington D.C.	U.S.A.	Potomac
Yangoon	Myanmar	Irrawaddy

### **List of national parks of India**

*Here is the list of all national parks and there location in India for Banking exams*

- o Ghatprabha Bird Sanctuary – Belgaum (Karnataka)
- o Bandipur National Park – Mysore (Karnataka)
- o Rani Jhansi Marine National Park – Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- o Campbell National Park - Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- o Dudwa National Park – Lakhimpur Kheri (Uttar Pradesh)
- o Rajaji National Park – Dehradun, (Uttarakhand)
- o Dachigam National Park – Srinagar (Jammu & Kashmir)

- o Ranthambore Tiger Sanctuary – Sawai Madhopur (Rajasthan)
- o Kaziranga National Park – Golaghat/Nagaon (Assam)
- o Manas Tiger Sanctuary – Barpeta (Assam)
- o Corbett National Park – Nainital (Uttarakhand)
- o Sundarbans Tiger Sanctuary – 24Paraganas (West Bengal)
- o Bandhavgarh National Park – Shahdol (Madhya Pradesh)
- o Kanha National Park – Mandla (Madhya Pradesh)
- o Hazaribagh National Park – Hazaribagh (Jharkhand)
- o Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary – Nellore (Andhra Pradesh)
- o Gir National Park – Junagarh (Gujarat)
- o Periyar Sanctuary – Idduki (Kerala)
- o Keoladeo National Park – Bharatpur (Rajasthan)
- o Chandraprabha Sanctuary – Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh)
- o Simlipal Tiger Sanctuary – Mayurbhanj (Odisha)
- o Gahirmatha Turtle Sanctuary – Kendrapara (Odisha)
- o Nal Sarovar Bird Sanctuary – Ahmedabad (Gujarat)
- o Mudumalai Sanctuary – Nilgiris (Tamilnadu)
- o Galathea National Park – Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- o Mahatma Gandhi Marine National Park – Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- o Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary – Bhagalpu (Bihar)
- o Silent Valley National Park – Palakkad, (Kerala)

## Important Airports

Name of the state	City name	Name of the Airport
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Port Blair	Veer Savarkar International Airport
Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam	Visakhapatnam International Airport
Assam	Guwahati	Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport
Bihar	Gaya	Gaya International Airport
Delhi	New Delhi	Indira Gandhi International Airport
Goa	Goa/td	Goa International Airport/Dabolim Airport
Gujarat	Ahmedabad	Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport
Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar	Srinagar Airport
Karnataka	Bengaluru	Kempegowda International Airport
Karnataka	Mangalore	Mangalore International Airport
Kerala	Kochi	Cochin International Airport
Kerala	Kozhikode	Calicut International Airport
Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	Trivandrum International Airport
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	Raja Bhoj International Airport
Maharashtra	Mumbai	Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport
Maharashtra	Nagpur	Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport
Manipur	Imphal	Tuliha International Airport
Odisha	Bhubaneswar	Biju Patnaik International Airport
Punjab	Amritsar	Sri Guru Ram Dass Jee International Airport
Rajasthan	Jaipur	Jaipur International Airport

Tamil Nadu	Chennai	Chennai International Airport
Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore	Coimbatore International Airport
Tamil Nadu	Madurai	Madurai Airport
Tamil Nadu	Tiruchirapalli	Tiruchirapalli International Airport
Telangana	Hyderabad	Rajiv Gandhi International Airport
Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport
Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi	Lal Bahadur Shastri Airport
West Bengal	Kolkata	Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport

## 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 'jyotirlings' among the 12 existing jyotirlings 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 Tritiya (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 'Salakatla 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 lingum (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 \*

## **Armenia**

- Monasteries of Hagpat and Sanahin
- Cathedral and Churches of Echmiatsin and the Archaeological Site of Zvartnots
- Monastery of Geghard and the Upper Azat Valley

## **Australia**

Great Barrier Reef  
 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)  
 Heard and McDonald Islands  
 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  
 Hallstatt-Dachstein / Salzkammergut Cultural Landscape  
 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

### **Bahrain**

Qal'at al-Bahrain – Ancient Harbour and Capital of Dilmun  
Pearling, Testimony of an Island Economy

### **Bangladesh**

Historic Mosque City of Bagerhat  
Ruins of the Buddhist Vihara at Paharpur  
The Sundarbans

### **Barbados**

Historic Bridgetown and its Garrison

### **Belarus**

Białowieża Forest \*  
Mir Castle Complex  
Architectural, Residential and Cultural Complex of the Radziwiłł Family at Nesvizh  
Struve Geodetic Arc \*

### **Belgium**

Flemish Béguinages  
La Grand-Place, Brussels  
The Four Lifts on the Canal du Centre and their Environs, La Louvière and Le Roeulx (Hainaut)  
Belfries of Belgium and France \* 3  
Historic Centre of Brugge  
Major Town Houses of the Architect Victor Horta (Brussels)  
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### **Belize**

Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System

### **Benin**

Royal Palaces of Abomey

### **Bolivia (Plurinational State of)**

City of Potosí

Jesuit Missions of the Chiquitos  
 Historic City of Sucre  
 Fuerte de Samaipata  
 Noel Kempff Mercado National Park  
 Tiwanaku: Spiritual and Political Centre of the Tiwanaku Culture  
 Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System \*

### **Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Old Bridge Area of the Old City of Mostar  
 Mehmed Paša Sokolović Bridge in Višegrad

### **Botswana**

Tsodilo  
 Okavango Delta

### **Brazil**

Historic Town of Ouro Preto  
 Historic Centre of the Town of Olinda  
 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) \*  
 Historic Centre of Salvador de Bahia  
 Sanctuary of Bom Jesus do Congonhas  
 Iguaçu National Park  
 Brasilia  
 Serra da Capivara National Park  
 Historic Centre of São Luís  
 Atlantic Forest South-East Reserves  
 Discovery Coast Atlantic Forest Reserves  
 Historic Centre of the Town of Diamantina  
 Central Amazon Conservation Complex 4  
 Pantanal Conservation Area  
 Brazilian Atlantic Islands: Fernando de Noronha and Atol das Rocas Reserves  
 Cerrado Protected Areas: Chapada dos Veadeiros and Emas National Parks  
 Historic Centre of the Town of Goiás  
 São Francisco Square in the Town of São Cristóvão  
 Rio de Janeiro: Carioca Landscapes between the Mountain and the Sea

### **Bulgaria**

Boyana Church  
 Madara Rider  
 Rock-Hewn Churches of Ivanovo  
 Thracian Tomb of Kazanlak  
 Ancient City of Nessebar  
 Pirin National Park  
 Rila Monastery  
 Srebarna Nature Reserve

Thracian Tomb of Sveshtari

### **Burkina Faso**

Ruins of Loropéni

### **Cabo Verde**

Cidade Velha, Historic Centre of Ribeira Grande

### **Cambodia**

Angkor

Temple of Preah Vihear

### **Cameroon**

Dja Faunal Reserve

Sangha Trinational \*

### **Canada**

L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Site

Nahanni National Park #

Dinosaur Provincial Park

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

Historic District of Old Québec

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

### **Central African Republic**

Manovo-Gounda St Floris National Park

Sangha Trinational \*

### **Chad**

Lakes of Ounianga

### **Chile**

Rapa Nui National Park

Churches of Chiloé

Historic Quarter of the Seaport City of Valparaíso

Humberstone and Santa Laura Saltpeter Works  
 Sewell Mining Town  
 Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System \*

## **China**

Imperial Palaces of the Ming and Qing Dynasties in Beijing and Shenyang  
 Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor  
 Mogao Caves  
 Mount Taishan  
 Peking Man Site at Zhoukoudian  
 The Great Wall  
 Mount Huangshan  
 Huanglong Scenic and Historic Interest Area  
 Jiuzhaigou Valley Scenic and Historic Interest Area  
 Wulingyuan Scenic and Historic Interest Area  
 Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains  
 Historic Ensemble of the Potala Palace, Lhasa 7  
 Mountain Resort and its Outlying Temples, Chengde  
 Temple and Cemetery of Confucius and the Kong Family Mansion in Qufu  
 Lushan National Park  
 Mount Emei Scenic Area, including Leshan Giant Buddha Scenic Area  
 Ancient City of Ping Yao  
 Classical Gardens of Suzhou  
 Old Town of Lijiang  
 Summer Palace, an Imperial Garden in Beijing  
 Temple of Heaven: an Imperial Sacrificial Altar in Beijing  
 Dazu Rock Carvings  
 Mount Wuyi  
 Ancient Villages in Southern Anhui – Xidi and Hongcun  
 Imperial Tombs of the Ming and Qing Dynasties  
 Longmen Grottoes  
 Mount Qingcheng and the Dujiangyan Irrigation System  
 Yungang Grottoes  
 Three Parallel Rivers of Yunnan Protected Areas  
 Capital Cities and Tombs of the Ancient Koguryo Kingdom  
 Historic Centre of Macao  
 Sichuan Giant Panda Sanctuaries - Wolong, Mt Siguniang and Jiayin Mountains  
 Yin Xu  
 Kaiping Diaolou and Villages  
 South China Karst  
 Fujian Tulou  
 Mount Sanqingshan National Park  
 Mount Wutai  
 China Danxia  
 Historic Monuments of Dengfeng in “The Centre of Heaven and Earth”  
 West Lake Cultural Landscape of Hangzhou

Chengjiang Fossil Site  
 Site of Xanadu  
 Cultural Landscape of Honghe Hani Rice Terraces  
 Xinjiang Tianshan  
 Silk Roads: the Routes Network of Chang'an-Tianshan Corridor \*  
 The Grand Canal  
 Tusi Sites

### **Colombia**

Port, Fortresses and Group of Monuments, Cartagena  
 Los Katíos National Park  
 Historic Centre of Santa Cruz de Mompox  
 National Archeological Park of Tierradentro  
 San Agustín Archaeological Park  
 Malpelo Fauna and Flora Sanctuary  
 Coffee Cultural Landscape of Colombia  
 Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System \*

### **Congo**

Sangha Trinational \*

### **Costa Rica**

Talamanca Range-La Amistad Reserves / La Amistad National Park \*  
 Cocos Island National Park  
 Area de Conservación Guanacaste  
 Precolumbian Chiefdom Settlements with Stone Spheres of the Diquís

### **Côte d'Ivoire**

Mount Nimba Strict Nature Reserve \*  
 Taï National Park  
 Comoé National Park  
 Historic Town of Grand-Bassam

### **Croatia**

Historical Complex of Split with the Palace of Diocletian  
 Old City of Dubrovnik  
 Plitvice Lakes National Park #  
 Episcopal Complex of the Euphrasian Basilica in the Historic Centre of Poreč  
 Historic City of Trogir  
 The Cathedral of St James in Šibenik  
 Stari Grad Plain

### **Cuba**

Old Havana and its Fortification System  
 Trinidad and the Valley de los Ingenios  
 San Pedro de la Roca Castle, Santiago de Cuba

Desembarco del Granma National Park  
 Viñales Valley  
 Archaeological Landscape of the First Coffee Plantations in the South-East of Cuba  
 Alejandro de Humboldt National Park  
 Urban Historic Centre of Cienfuegos  
 Historic Centre of Camagüey

### **Cyprus**

Paphos  
 Painted Churches in the Troodos Region  
 Choirokoitia

### **Czech Republic**

Historic Centre of Český Krumlov  
 Historic Centre of Prague  
 Historic Centre of Telč  
 Pilgrimage Church of St John of Nepomuk at Zelená Hora  
 Kutná Hora: Historical Town Centre with the Church of St Barbara and the Cathedral of Our Lady at Sedlec  
 Lednice-Valtice Cultural Landscape  
 Gardens and Castle at Kroměříž  
 Holašovice Historic Village  
 Litomyšl Castle  
 Holy Trinity Column in Olomouc  
 Tugendhat Villa in Brno  
 Jewish Quarter and St Procopius' Basilica in Třebíč

### **Democratic People's Republic of Korea**

Complex of Koguryo Tombs  
 Historic Monuments and Sites in Kaesong

### **Democratic Republic of the Congo**

Virunga National Park #  
 Kahuzi-Biega National Park  
 Garamba National Park  
 Salonga National Park  
 Okapi Wildlife Reserve

### **Denmark**

Jelling Mounds, Runic Stones and Church  
 Roskilde Cathedral  
 Kronborg Castle  
 Ilulissat Icefjord  
 Wadden Sea \*  
 Stevns Klint  
 Christiansfeld, a Moravian Church Settlement

The par force hunting landscape in North Zealand

### **Dominica**

Morne Trois Pitons National Park

### **Dominican Republic**

Colonial City of Santo Domingo

### **Ecuador**

City of Quito

Galápagos Islands

Sangay National Park #

Historic Centre of Santa Ana de los Ríos de Cuenca

Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System \*

### **Egypt**

Abu Mena

Ancient Thebes with its Necropolis

Historic Cairo

Memphis and its Necropolis – the Pyramid Fields from Giza to Dahshur

Nubian Monuments from Abu Simbel to Philae

Saint Catherine Area

Wadi Al-Hitan (Whale Valley)

### **El Salvador**

Joya de Cerén Archaeological Site

### **Estonia**

Historic Centre (Old Town) of Tallinn

Struve Geodetic Arc \*

### **Ethiopia**

Simien National Park

Rock-Hewn Churches, Lalibela

Fasil Ghebbi, Gondar Region

Aksum

Lower Valley of the Awash

Lower Valley of the Omo

Tiya

Harar Jugol, the Fortified Historic Town

Konso Cultural Landscape

### **Fiji**

Levuka Historical Port Town

### **Finland**

Fortress of Suomenlinna  
 Old Rauma  
 Petäjävesi Old Church  
 Verla Groundwood and Board Mill  
 Bronze Age Burial Site of Sammallahdenmäki  
 High Coast / Kvarken Archipelago \*  
 Struve Geodetic Arc \*

## **France**

Chartres Cathedral  
 Mont-Saint-Michel and its Bay  
 Palace and Park of Versailles  
 Prehistoric Sites and Decorated Caves of the Vézère Valley  
 Vézelay, Church and Hill  
 Amiens Cathedral  
 Arles, Roman and Romanesque Monuments  
 Cistercian Abbey of Fontenay  
 Palace and Park of Fontainebleau  
 Roman Theatre and its Surroundings and the "Triumphal Arch" of Orange  
 From the Great Saltworks of Salins-les-Bains to the Royal Saltworks of Arc-et-Senans, the  
 Production of Open-pan Salt  
 Abbey Church of Saint-Savin sur Gartempe  
 Gulf of Porto: Calanche of Piana, Gulf of Girolata, Scandola Reserve #  
 Place Stanislas, Place de la Carrière and Place d'Alliance in Nancy  
 Pont du Gard (Roman Aqueduct)  
 Strasbourg – Grande île  
 Cathedral of Notre-Dame, Former Abbey of Saint-Rémi and Palace of Tau, Reims  
 Paris, Banks of the Seine  
 Bourges Cathedral  
 Historic Centre of Avignon: Papal Palace, Episcopal Ensemble and Avignon Bridge  
 Canal du Midi  
 Historic Fortified City of Carcassonne  
 Pyrénées - Mont Perdu \*  
 Historic Site of Lyons  
 Routes of Santiago de Compostela in France  
 Belfries of Belgium and France \* 8  
 Jurisdiction of Saint-Emilion  
 The Loire Valley between Sully-sur-Loire and Chalonnes 9  
 Provins, Town of Medieval Fairs  
 Le Havre, the City Rebuilt by Auguste Perret  
 Bordeaux, Port of the Moon  
 Fortifications of Vauban  
 Lagoons of New Caledonia: Reef Diversity and Associated Ecosystems  
 Episcopal City of Albi  
 Pitons, cirques and remparts of Reunion Island  
 Prehistoric Pile dwellings around the Alps \*

The Causses and the Cévennes, Mediterranean agro-pastoral Cultural Landscape  
 Nord-Pas de Calais Mining Basin  
 Decorated Cave of Pont d'Arc, known as Grotte Chauvet-Pont d'Arc, Ardèche  
 Champagne Hillsides, Houses and Cellars  
 Climats, terroirs of Burgundy

### **Gabon**

Ecosystem and Relict Cultural Landscape of Lopé-Okanda

### **Gambia**

Kunta Kinteh Island and Related Sites  
 Stone Circles of Senegambia \*

### **Georgia**

Bagrati Cathedral and Gelati Monastery  
 Historical Monuments of Mtskheta  
 Upper Svaneti

### **Germany**

Aachen Cathedral  
 Speyer Cathedral  
 Würzburg Residence with the Court Gardens and Residence Square  
 Pilgrimage Church of Wies  
 Castles of Augustusburg and Falkenlust at Brühl  
 St Mary's Cathedral and St Michael's Church at Hildesheim  
 Roman Monuments, Cathedral of St Peter and Church of Our Lady in Trier  
 Frontiers of the Roman Empire \* 10  
 Hanseatic City of Lübeck  
 Palaces and Parks of Potsdam and Berlin  
 Abbey and Altenmünster of Lorsch  
 Mines of Rammelsberg, Historic Town of Goslar and Upper Harz Water Management System #  
 Maulbronn Monastery Complex  
 Town of Bamberg  
 Collegiate Church, Castle and Old Town of Quedlinburg  
 Völklingen Ironworks  
 Messel Pit Fossil Site  
 Bauhaus and its Sites in Weimar and Dessau  
 Cologne Cathedral  
 Luther Memorials in Eisleben and Wittenberg  
 Classical Weimar  
 Museumsinsel (Museum Island), Berlin  
 Wartburg Castle  
 Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz  
 Monastic Island of Reichenau  
 Zollverein Coal Mine Industrial Complex in Essen

Historic Centres of Stralsund and Wismar  
 Upper Middle Rhine Valley  
 Dresden Elbe Valley Delisted 2009  
 Muskauer Park / Park Mużakowski \*  
 Town Hall and Roland on the Marketplace of Bremen  
 Old town of Regensburg with Stadtamhof  
 Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and the Ancient Beech Forests of Germany \*  
 Berlin Modernism Housing Estates  
 Wadden Sea \*  
 Fagus Factory in Alfeld  
 Prehistoric Pile dwellings around the Alps \*  
 Margravial Opera House Bayreuth  
 Bergpark Wilhelmshöhe  
 Carolingian Westwork and Civitas Corvey  
 Speicherstadt and Kontorhaus District with Chilehaus

### **Ghana**

Forts and Castles, Volta, Greater Accra, Central and Western Regions  
 Asante Traditional Buildings

### **Greece**

Temple of Apollo Epicurius at Bassae  
 Acropolis, Athens  
 Archaeological Site of Delphi  
 Medieval City of Rhodes  
 Meteora  
 Mount Athos  
 Paleochristian and Byzantine Monuments of Thessalonika  
 Sanctuary of Asklepios at Epidauros  
 Archaeological Site of Mystras  
 Archaeological Site of Olympia  
 Delos  
 Monasteries of Daphni, Hosios Loukas and Nea Moni of Chios  
 Pythagoreion and Heraion of Samos  
 Archaeological Site of Aigai (modern name Vergina)  
 Archaeological Sites of Mycenae and Tiryns  
 The Historic Centre (Chorá) with the Monastery of Saint-John the Theologian and the Cave of the Apocalypse on the Island of Pátmos  
 Old Town of Corfu  
 Guatemala  
 Antigua Guatemala  
 Tikal National Park  
 Archaeological Park and Ruins of Quirigua

### **Guinea**

Mount Nimba Strict Nature Reserve \*

**Haiti**

National History Park – Citadel, Sans Souci, Ramiers

**Holy See**

Historic Centre of Rome, the Properties of the Holy See in that City Enjoying Extraterritorial Rights and San Paolo Fuori le Mura \* 11

Vatican City

**Honduras**

Maya Site of Copan

Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve

**Hungary**

Budapest, including the Banks of the Danube, the Buda Castle Quarter and Andrassy Avenue

Old Village of Hollókő and its Surroundings

Caves of Aggtelek Karst and Slovak Karst \*

Millenary Benedictine Abbey of Pannonhalma and its Natural Environment

Hortobágy National Park - the Puszta

Early Christian Necropolis of Pécs (Sopiana)

Fertő / Neusiedlersee Cultural Landscape \*

Tokaj Wine Region Historic Cultural Landscape

**Iceland**

Pingvellir National Park

Surtsey

**India**

Agra Fort

Ajanta Caves

Ellora Caves

Taj Mahal

Group of Monuments at Mahabalipuram

Sun Temple, Konârak

Kaziranga National Park

Keoladeo National Park

Manas Wildlife Sanctuary

Churches and Convents of Goa

Fatehpur Sikri

Group of Monuments at Hampi

Khajuraho Group of Monuments

Elephanta Caves

Great Living Chola Temples 12

Group of Monuments at Pattadakal

Sundarbans National Park

Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks

Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi  
 Humayun's Tomb, Delhi  
 Qutb Minar and its Monuments, Delhi  
 Mountain Railways of India  
 Mahabodhi Temple Complex at Bodh Gaya  
 Rock Shelters of Bhimbetka  
 Champaner-Pavagadh Archaeological Park  
 Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (formerly Victoria Terminus)  
 Red Fort Complex  
 The Jantar Mantar, Jaipur  
 Western Ghats  
 Hill Forts of Rajasthan  
 Great Himalayan National Park Conservation Area  
 Rani-ki-Vav (the Queen's Stepwell) at Patan, Gujarat

### **Indonesia**

Borobudur Temple Compounds  
 Komodo National Park  
 Prambanan Temple Compounds  
 Ujung Kulon National Park  
 Sangiran Early Man Site  
 Lorentz National Park  
 Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra  
 Cultural Landscape of Bali Province: the Subak System as a Manifestation of the Tri Hita Karana Philosophy

### **Iran (Islamic Republic of)**

Meidan Emam, Esfahan  
 Persepolis  
 Tchogha Zanbil  
 Takht-e Soleyman  
 Bam and its Cultural Landscape  
 Pasargadae  
 Soltaniyeh  
 Bisotun  
 Armenian Monastic Ensembles of Iran  
 Shushtar Historical Hydraulic System  
 Sheikh Safi al-din Khānegāh and Shrine Ensemble in Ardabil  
 Tabriz Historic Bazaar Complex  
 The Persian Garden  
 Gonbad-e Qābus  
 Masjed-e Jāmé of Isfahan  
 Golestan Palace  
 Shahr-i Sokhta  
 Cultural Landscape of Maymand  
 Susa

**Iraq**

Hatra

Ashur (Qal'at Sherqat)

Samarra Archaeological City

Erbil Citadel

**Ireland**

Brú na Bóinne - Archaeological Ensemble of the Bend of the Boyne

Sceilg Mhichíl

**Israel**

Masada

Old City of Acre

White City of Tel-Aviv -- the Modern Movement

Biblical Tels - Megiddo, Hazor, Beer Sheba

Incense Route - Desert Cities in the Negev

Bahá'i Holy Places in Haifa and the Western Galilee

Sites of Human Evolution at Mount Carmel: The Nahal Me'arot / Wadi el-Mughara Caves

Caves of Maresha and Bet-Guvrin in the Judean Lowlands as a Microcosm of the Land of the Caves

Necropolis of Bet She'arim: A Landmark of Jewish Renewal

**Italy**

Rock Drawings in Valcamonica

Church and Dominican Convent of Santa Maria delle Grazie with "The Last Supper" by Leonardo da Vinci

Historic Centre of Rome, the Properties of the Holy See in that City Enjoying Extraterritorial Rights and San Paolo Fuori le Mura \* 13

Historic Centre of Florence

Piazza del Duomo, Pisa

Venice and its Lagoon

Historic Centre of San Gimignano

The Sassi and the Park of the Rupestrian Churches of Matera

City of Vicenza and the Palladian Villas of the Veneto

Crespi d'Adda

Ferrara, City of the Renaissance, and its Po Delta 14

Historic Centre of Naples

Historic Centre of Siena

Castel del Monte

Early Christian Monuments of Ravenna

Historic Centre of the City of Pienza

The Trulli of Alberobello

18th-Century Royal Palace at Caserta with the Park, the Aqueduct of Vanvitelli, and the San Leucio Complex

Archaeological Area of Agrigento  
 Archaeological Areas of Pompei, Herculaneum and Torre Annunziata  
 Botanical Garden (Orto Botanico), Padua  
 Cathedral, Torre Civica and Piazza Grande, Modena  
 Costiera Amalfitana  
 Portovenere, Cinque Terre, and the Islands (Palmaria, Tino and Tinetto)  
 Residences of the Royal House of Savoy  
 Su Nuraxi di Barumini  
 Villa Romana del Casale  
 Archaeological Area and the Patriarchal Basilica of Aquileia  
 Cilento and Vallo di Diano National Park with the Archeological Sites of Paestum and Velia,  
 and the Certosa di Padula  
 Historic Centre of Urbino  
 Villa Adriana (Tivoli)  
 Assisi, the Basilica of San Francesco and Other Franciscan Sites  
 City of Verona  
 Isole Eolie (Aeolian Islands)  
 Villa d'Este, Tivoli  
 Late Baroque Towns of the Val di Noto (South-Eastern Sicily)  
 Sacri Monti of Piedmont and Lombardy  
 Monte San Giorgio \*  
 Etruscan Necropolises of Cerveteri and Tarquinia  
 Val d'Orcia  
 Syracuse and the Rocky Necropolis of Pantalica  
 Genoa: Le Strade Nuove and the system of the Palazzi dei Rolli  
 Mantua and Sabbioneta  
 Rhaetian Railway in the Albula / Bernina Landscapes \*  
 The Dolomites  
 Longobards in Italy. Places of the Power (568-774 A.D.)  
 Prehistoric Pile dwellings around the Alps \*  
 Medici Villas and Gardens in Tuscany  
 Mount Etna  
 Vineyard Landscape of Piedmont: Langhe-Roero and Monferrato  
 Arab-Norman Palermo and the Cathedral Churches of Cefalú and Monreale

## **Jamaica**

Blue and John Crow Mountains

## **Japan**

Buddhist Monuments in the Horyu-ji Area  
 Himeji-jo  
 Shirakami-Sanchi  
 Yakushima  
 Historic Monuments of Ancient Kyoto (Kyoto, Uji and Otsu Cities)  
 Historic Villages of Shirakawa-go and Gokayama  
 Hiroshima Peace Memorial (Genbaku Dome)

Itsukushima Shinto Shrine  
 Historic Monuments of Ancient Nara  
 Shrines and Temples of Nikko  
 Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu  
 Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range  
 Shiretoko  
 Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine and its Cultural Landscape  
 Hiraizumi – Temples, Gardens and Archaeological Sites Representing the Buddhist Pure Land  
 Ogasawara Islands  
 Fujisan, sacred place and source of artistic inspiration  
 Tomioka Silk Mill and Related Sites  
 Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution: Iron and Steel, Shipbuilding and Coal Mining

### **Jerusalem (Site proposed by Jordan)**

Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls

### **Jordan**

Petra  
 Quseir Amra  
 Um er-Rasas (Kastrom Mefa'a)  
 Wadi Rum Protected Area  
 Baptism Site "Bethany Beyond the Jordan" (Al-Maghtas)

### **Kazakhstan**

Mausoleum of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi  
 Petroglyphs within the Archaeological Landscape of Tamgaly  
 Saryarka – Steppe and Lakes of Northern Kazakhstan  
 Silk Roads: the Routes Network of Chang'an-Tianshan Corridor \*

### **Kenya**

Lake Turkana National Parks  
 Mount Kenya National Park/Natural Forest  
 Lamu Old Town  
 Sacred Mijikenda Kaya Forests  
 Fort Jesus, Mombasa  
 Kenya Lake System in the Great Rift Valley

### **Kiribati**

Phoenix Islands Protected Area

### **Kyrgyzstan**

Sulaiman-Too Sacred Mountain  
 Silk Roads: the Routes Network of Chang'an-Tianshan Corridor \*

### **Lao People's Democratic Republic**

Town of Luang Prabang  
 Vat Phou and Associated Ancient Settlements within the Champasak Cultural Landscape

### **Latvia**

Historic Centre of Riga  
 Struve Geodetic Arc \*

### **Lebanon**

Anjar  
 Baalbek  
 Byblos  
 Tyre  
 Ouadi Qadisha (the Holy Valley) and the Forest of the Cedars of God (Horsh Arz el-Rab)

### **Lesotho**

Maloti-Drakensberg Park \*

### **Libya**

Archaeological Site of Cyrene  
 Archaeological Site of Leptis Magna  
 Archaeological Site of Sabratha  
 Rock-Art Sites of Tadrart Acacus  
 Old Town of Ghadamès

### **Lithuania**

Vilnius Historic Centre  
 Curonian Spit \*  
 Kernavė Archaeological Site (Cultural Reserve of Kernavė)  
 Struve Geodetic Arc \*

### **Luxembourg**

City of Luxembourg: its Old Quarters and Fortifications

### **Madagascar**

Tsingy de Bemaraha Strict Nature Reserve  
 Royal Hill of Ambohimanga  
 Rainforests of the Atsinanana

### **Malawi**

Lake Malawi National Park  
 Chongoni Rock-Art Area

### **Malaysia**

Gunung Mulu National Park  
 Kinabalu Park  
 Melaka and George Town, Historic Cities of the Straits of Malacca  
 Archaeological Heritage of the Lenggong Valley

**Mali**

Timbuktu  
 Old Towns of Djenné  
 Cliff of Bandiagara (Land of the Dogons)  
 Tomb of Askia

**Malta**

City of Valletta  
 Megalithic Temples of Malta 15  
 Hal Saflieni Hypogeum

**Marshall Islands**

Bikini Atoll Nuclear Test Site

**Mauritania**

Banc d'Arguin National Park  
 Ancient Ksour of Ouadane, Chinguetti, Tichitt and Oualata

**Mauritius**

Aapravasi Ghat  
 Le Morne Cultural Landscape

**Mexico**

Historic Centre of Mexico City and Xochimilco  
 Historic Centre of Oaxaca and Archaeological Site of Monte Albán  
 Historic Centre of Puebla  
 Pre-Hispanic City and National Park of Palenque  
 Pre-Hispanic City of Teotihuacan  
 Sian Ka'an  
 Historic Town of Guanajuato and Adjacent Mines  
 Pre-Hispanic City of Chichen-Itza  
 Historic Centre of Morelia  
 El Tajin, Pre-Hispanic City  
 Historic Centre of Zacatecas  
 Rock Paintings of the Sierra de San Francisco  
 Whale Sanctuary of El Vizcaino  
 Earliest 16th-Century Monasteries on the Slopes of Popocatepetl  
 Historic Monuments Zone of Querétaro  
 Pre-Hispanic Town of Uxmal  
 Hospicio Cabañas, Guadalajara  
 Archaeological Zone of Paquimé, Casas Grandes  
 Historic Monuments Zone of Tlacotalpan  
 Archaeological Monuments Zone of Xochicalco  
 Historic Fortified Town of Campeche  
 Ancient Maya City and Protected Tropical Forests of Calakmul, Campeche

Franciscan Missions in the Sierra Gorda of Querétaro  
 Luis Barragán House and Studio  
 Islands and Protected Areas of the Gulf of California  
 Agave Landscape and Ancient Industrial Facilities of Tequila  
 Central University City Campus of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)  
 Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve  
 Protective town of San Miguel and the Sanctuary of Jesús Nazareno de Atotonilco  
 Camino Real de Tierra Adentro  
 Prehistoric Caves of Yagul and Mitla in the Central Valley of Oaxaca  
 El Pinacate and Gran Desierto de Altar Biosphere Reserve  
 Aqueduct of Padre Tembleque Hydraulic System

### **Mongolia**

Uvs Nuur Basin \*  
 Orkhon Valley Cultural Landscape  
 Petroglyphic Complexes of the Mongolian Altai  
 Great Burkhan Khaldun Mountain and its surrounding sacred landscape

### **Montenegro**

Natural and Culturo-Historical Region of Kotor  
 Durmitor National Park

### **Morocco**

Medina of Fez  
 Medina of Marrakesh  
 Ksar of Ait-Ben-Haddou  
 Historic City of Meknes  
 Archaeological Site of Volubilis  
 Medina of Tétouan (formerly known as Titawin)  
 Medina of Essaouira (formerly Mogador)  
 Portuguese City of Mazagan (El Jadida)  
 Rabat, Modern Capital and Historic City: a Shared Heritage

### **Mozambique**

Island of Mozambique

### **Myanmar**

Pyu Ancient Cities

### **Namibia**

Twyfelfontein or /Ui-//aes  
 Namib Sand Sea

### **Nepal**

Kathmandu Valley  
 Sagarmatha National Park

Chitwan National Park  
Lumbini, the Birthplace of the Lord Buddha

### **Netherlands**

Schokland and Surroundings  
Defence Line of Amsterdam  
Historic Area of Willemstad, Inner City and Harbour, Curaçao  
Mill Network at Kinderdijk-Elshout  
Ir.D.F. Woudagemaal (D.F. Wouda Steam Pumping Station)  
Droogmakerij de Beemster (Beemster Polder)  
Rietveld Schröderhuis (Rietveld Schröder House)  
Wadden Sea \*  
Seventeenth-Century Canal Ring Area of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht  
Van Nellefabriek

### **New Zealand**

Te Wahipounamu – South West New Zealand 16  
Tongariro National Park #  
New Zealand Sub-Antarctic Islands

### **Nicaragua**

Ruins of León Viejo  
León Cathedral

### **Niger**

Air and Ténéré Natural Reserves  
W National Park of Niger  
Historic Centre of Agadez

### **Nigeria**

Sukur Cultural Landscape  
Osun-Osogbo Sacred Grove

### **Norway**

Bryggen  
Urnes Stave Church  
Røros Mining Town and the Circumference  
Rock Art of Alta  
Vegaøyan -- The Vega Archipelago  
Struve Geodetic Arc \*  
West Norwegian Fjords – Geirangerfjord and Nærøyfjord  
Rjukan-Notodden Industrial Heritage Site

### **Oman**

Bahla Fort  
Archaeological Sites of Bat, Al-Khutm and Al-Ayn  
Arabian Oryx Sanctuary Delisted 2007

Land of Frankincense

Aflaj Irrigation Systems of Oman

### **Pakistan**

Archaeological Ruins at Moenjodaro

Buddhist Ruins of Takht-i-Bahi and Neighbouring City Remains at Sahr-i-Bahlol

Taxila

Fort and Shalamar Gardens in Lahore

Historical Monuments at Makli, Thatta

Rohtas Fort

### **Palau**

Rock Islands Southern Lagoon

### **Palestine**

Birthplace of Jesus: Church of the Nativity and the Pilgrimage Route, Bethlehem

Palestine: Land of Olives and Vines – Cultural Landscape of Southern Jerusalem, Battir

### **Panama**

Fortifications on the Caribbean Side of Panama: Portobelo-San Lorenzo

Darien National Park

Talamanca Range-La Amistad Reserves / La Amistad National Park \*

Archaeological Site of Panamá Viejo and Historic District of Panamá

Coiba National Park and its Special Zone of Marine Protection

### **Papua New Guinea**

Kuk Early Agricultural Site

### **Paraguay**

Jesuit Missions of La Santísima Trinidad de Paraná and Jesús de Tavarangue

### **Peru**

City of Cuzco

Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu

Chavin (Archaeological Site)

Huascarán National Park #

Chan Chan Archaeological Zone

Manú National Park

Historic Centre of Lima 17

Río Abiseo National Park

Lines and Geoglyphs of Nasca and Pampas de Jumana

Historical Centre of the City of Arequipa

Sacred City of Caral-Supe

Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System \*

### **Philippines**

Baroque Churches of the Philippines

Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park  
 Rice Terraces of the Philippine Cordilleras  
 Historic Town of Vigan  
 Puerto-Princesa Subterranean River National Park  
 Mount Hamiguitan Range Wildlife Sanctuary

### **Poland**

Historic Centre of Kraków  
 Wieliczka and Bochnia Royal Salt Mines  
 Auschwitz Birkenau  
 German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp (1940-1945)  
 Białowieża Forest \*  
 Historic Centre of Warsaw  
 Old City of Zamość  
 Castle of the Teutonic Order in Malbork  
 Medieval Town of Toruń  
 Kalwaria Zebrzydowska: the Mannerist Architectural and Park Landscape Complex and Pilgrimage Park  
 Churches of Peace in Jawor and Świdnica  
 Wooden Churches of Southern Małopolska  
 Muskauer Park / Park Mużakowski \*  
 Centennial Hall in Wrocław  
 Wooden Tserkvas of the Carpathian Region in Poland and Ukraine \*

### **Portugal**

Central Zone of the Town of Angra do Heroísmo in the Azores  
 Convent of Christ in Tomar  
 Monastery of Batalha  
 Monastery of the Hieronymites and Tower of Belém in Lisbon  
 Historic Centre of Évora  
 Monastery of Alcobaça  
 Cultural Landscape of Sintra  
 Historic Centre of Oporto  
 Prehistoric Rock Art Sites in the Côa Valley and Siega Verde \* 18  
 Laurisilva of Madeira  
 Alto Douro Wine Region  
 Historic Centre of Guimarães  
 Landscape of the Pico Island Vineyard Culture  
 Garrison Border Town of Elvas and its Fortifications  
 University of Coimbra – Alta and Sofia

### **Qatar**

Al Zubarah Archaeological Site

### **Republic of Korea**

Haeinsa Temple Janggyeong Panjeon, the Depositories for the Tripitaka

Koreana Woodblocks  
 Jongmyo Shrine  
 Seokguram Grotto and Bulguksa Temple  
 Changdeokgung Palace Complex  
 Hwaseong Fortress  
 Gochang, Hwasun and Ganghwa Dolmen Sites  
 Gyeongju Historic Areas  
 Jeju Volcanic Island and Lava Tubes  
 Royal Tombs of the Joseon Dynasty  
 Historic Villages of Korea: Hahoe and Yangdong  
 Namhansanseong  
 Baekje Historic Areas

### **Republic of Moldova**

Struve Geodetic Arc \*

### **Romania**

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### **Russian Federation**

Historic Centre of Saint Petersburg and Related Groups of Monuments  
 Kizhi Pogost  
 Kremlin and Red Square, Moscow  
 Cultural and Historic Ensemble of the Solovetsky Islands  
 Historic Monuments of Novgorod and Surroundings  
 White Monuments of Vladimir and Suzdal  
 Architectural Ensemble of the Trinity Sergius Lavra in Sergiev Posad  
 Church of the Ascension, Kolomenskoye  
 Virgin Komi Forests  
 Lake Baikal  
 Volcanoes of Kamchatka 20  
 Golden Mountains of Altai  
 Western Caucasus  
 Curonian Spit \*  
 Ensemble of the Ferapontov Monastery  
 Historic and Architectural Complex of the Kazan Kremlin  
 Central Sikhote-Alin  
 Citadel, Ancient City and Fortress Buildings of Derbent  
 Uvs Nuur Basin \*  
 Ensemble of the Novodevichy Convent

Natural System of Wrangel Island Reserve  
 Historical Centre of the City of Yaroslavl  
 Struve Geodetic Arc \*  
 Putorana Plateau  
 Lena Pillars Nature Park  
 Bolgar Historical and Archaeological Complex

### **Saint Kitts and Nevis**

Brimstone Hill Fortress National Park

### **Saint Lucia**

Pitons Management Area

### **San Marino**

San Marino Historic Centre and Mount Titano

### **Saudi Arabia**

Al-Hijr Archaeological Site (Madâin Sâlih)  
 At-Turaif District in ad-Dir'iyah  
 Historic Jeddah, the Gate to Makkah  
 Rock Art in the Hail Region of Saudi Arabia

### **Senegal**

Island of Gorée  
 Niokolo-Koba National Park  
 Djoudj National Bird Sanctuary  
 Island of Saint-Louis  
 Stone Circles of Senegambia \*  
 Saloum Delta  
 Bassari Country: Bassari, Fula and Bedik Cultural Landscapes

### **Serbia**

Stari Ras and Sopoćani  
 Studenica Monastery  
 Medieval Monuments in Kosovo  
 Gamzigrad-Romuliana, Palace of Galerius

### **Seychelles**

Aldabra Atoll  
 Vallée de Mai Nature Reserve

### **Singapore**

Singapore Botanical Gardens

### **Slovakia**

Historic Town of Banská Štiavnica and the Technical Monuments in its Vicinity

Levoča, Spišský Hrad and the Associated Cultural Monuments

Vlkolínec

Caves of Aggtelek Karst and Slovak Karst \*

Bardejov Town Conservation Reserve

Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and the Ancient Beech Forests of Germany \*

Wooden Churches of the Slovak part of the Carpathian Mountain Area

## **Slovenia**

Škocjan Caves #

Prehistoric Pile dwellings around the Alps \*

Heritage of Mercury. Almadén and Idrija \*

## **Solomon Islands**

East Rennell

## **South Africa**

Fossil Hominid Sites of South Africa

iSimangaliso Wetland Park

Robben Island

Maloti-Drakensberg Park \*

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Vredefort Dome

Richtersveld Cultural and Botanical Landscape

## **Spain**

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Old Town of Cáceres

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Poblet Monastery

Archaeological Ensemble of Mérida

Routes of Santiago de Compostela: Camino Francés and Routes of Northern Spain

Royal Monastery of Santa María de Guadalupe

Doñana National Park  
 Historic Walled Town of Cuenca  
 La Lonja de la Seda de Valencia  
 Las Médulas  
 Palau de la Música Catalana and Hospital de Sant Pau, Barcelona  
 Pyrénées - Mont Perdu \*  
 San Millán Yuso and Suso Monasteries  
 Prehistoric Rock Art Sites in the Côa Valley and Siega Verde \* 26  
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 Ibiza, Biodiversity and Culture  
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 Vizcaya Bridge  
 Teide National Park  
 Tower of Hercules  
 Cultural Landscape of the Serra de Tramuntana  
 Heritage of Mercury. Almadén and Idrija \*

### **Sri Lanka**

Ancient City of Polonnaruwa  
 Ancient City of Sigiriya  
 Sacred City of Anuradhapura  
 Old Town of Galle and its Fortifications  
 Sacred City of Kandy  
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 Golden Temple of Dambulla  
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### **Sudan**

Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region  
 Archaeological Sites of the Island of Meroe

### **Suriname**

Central Suriname Nature Reserve  
 Historic Inner City of Paramaribo

### **Sweden**

Royal Domain of Drottningholm  
 Birka and Hovgården

Engelsberg Ironworks  
 Rock Carvings in Tanum  
 Skogskyrkogården  
 Hanseatic Town of Visby  
 Church Town of Gammelstad, Luleå  
 Laponian Area  
 Naval Port of Karlskrona  
 Agricultural Landscape of Southern Öland  
 High Coast / Kvarken Archipelago \*  
 Mining Area of the Great Copper Mountain in Falun  
 Grimeton Radio Station, Varberg  
 Struve Geodetic Arc \*  
 Decorated Farmhouses of Hälsingland

### **Switzerland**

Abbey of St Gall  
 Benedictine Convent of St John at Müstair  
 Old City of Berne  
 Three Castles, Defensive Wall and Ramparts of the Market-Town of Bellinzona  
 Swiss Alps Jungfrau-Aletsch  
 Monte San Giorgio \*  
 Lavaux, Vineyard Terraces  
 Rhaetian Railway in the Albula / Bernina Landscapes \*  
 Swiss Tectonic Arena Sardona  
 La Chaux-de-Fonds / Le Locle, Watchmaking Town Planning  
 Prehistoric Pile dwellings around the Alps \*

### **Syrian Arab Republic**

Ancient City of Damascus  
 Ancient City of Bosra  
 Site of Palmyra  
 Ancient City of Aleppo  
 Crac des Chevaliers and Qal'at Salah El-Din  
 Ancient Villages of Northern Syria

### **Tajikistan**

Proto-urban Site of Sarazm  
 Tajik National Park (Mountains of the Pamirs)

### **Thailand**

Historic City of Ayutthaya  
 Historic Town of Sukhothai and Associated Historic Towns  
 Thungyai-Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuaries  
 Ban Chiang Archaeological Site  
 Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex

**the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**

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**Togo**

Koutammakou, the Land of the Batammariba

**Tunisia**

Amphitheatre of El Jem

Archaeological Site of Carthage

Medina of Tunis

Ichkeul National Park

Punic Town of Kerkuane and its Necropolis

Kairouan

Medina of Sousse

Dougga / Thugga

**Turkey**

Göreme National Park and the Rock Sites of Cappadocia

Great Mosque and Hospital of Divriği

Historic Areas of Istanbul

Hattusha: the Hittite Capital

Nemrut Dağ

Hierapolis-Pamukkale

Xanthos-Letoon

City of Safranbolu

Archaeological Site of Troy

Selimiye Mosque and its Social Complex

Neolithic Site of Catalhöyük

Bursa and Cumalıkızık: the Birth of the Ottoman Empire

Pergamon and its Multi-Layered Cultural Landscape

Diyarbakır Fortress and Hevsel Gardens Cultural Landscape

Ephesus

**Turkmenistan**

State Historical and Cultural Park “Ancient Merv”

Kunya-Urgench

Parthian Fortresses of Nisa

**Uganda**

Bwindi Impenetrable National Park

Rwenzori Mountains National Park

Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi

**Ukraine**

Kiev: Saint-Sophia Cathedral and Related Monastic Buildings, Kiev-Pechersk Lavra

L'viv – the Ensemble of the Historic Centre

Struve Geodetic Arc \*

Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and the Ancient Beech Forests of Germany \*  
 Residence of Bukovinian and Dalmatian Metropolitans  
 Ancient City of Tauric Chersonese and its Chora  
 Wooden Tserkvas of the Carpathian Region in Poland and Ukraine \*

### **United Arab Emirates**

Cultural Sites of Al Ain (Hafit, Hili, Bidaa Bint Saud and Oases Areas)

### **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**

Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd  
 Durham Castle and Cathedral  
 Giant's Causeway and Causeway Coast  
 Ironbridge Gorge  
 St Kilda  
 Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites  
 Studley Royal Park including the Ruins of Fountains Abbey  
 Blenheim Palace  
 City of Bath  
 Frontiers of the Roman Empire \* 30  
 Palace of Westminster and Westminster Abbey including Saint Margaret's Church  
 Canterbury Cathedral, St Augustine's Abbey, and St Martin's Church  
 Henderson Island  
 Tower of London  
 Gough and Inaccessible Islands 31  
 Old and New Towns of Edinburgh  
 Maritime Greenwich  
 Heart of Neolithic Orkney  
 Blaenavon Industrial Landscape  
 Historic Town of St George and Related Fortifications, Bermuda  
 Derwent Valley Mills  
 Dorset and East Devon Coast  
 New Lanark  
 Saltaire  
 Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew  
 Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City  
 Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape  
 Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal  
 The Forth Bridge

### **United Republic of Tanzania**

Ngorongoro Conservation Area 32  
 Ruins of Kilwa Kisiwani and Ruins of Songo Mnara  
 Serengeti National Park  
 Selous Game Reserve  
 Kilimanjaro National Park  
 Stone Town of Zanzibar

## Kondoa Rock-Art Sites

### **United States of America**

Mesa Verde National Park  
 Yellowstone National Park  
 Everglades National Park  
 Grand Canyon National Park  
 Independence Hall  
 Klauane / Wrangell-St. Elias / Glacier Bay / Tatshenshini-Alsek # \* 33  
 Redwood National and State Parks  
 Mammoth Cave National Park  
 Olympic National Park  
 Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site  
 Great Smoky Mountains National Park  
 La Fortaleza and San Juan National Historic Site in Puerto Rico  
 Statue of Liberty  
 Yosemite National Park #  
 Chaco Culture  
 Hawaii Volcanoes National Park #  
 Monticello and the University of Virginia in Charlottesville  
 Taos Pueblo  
 Carlsbad Caverns National Park  
 Waterton Glacier International Peace Park \*  
 Papahānaumokuākea  
 Monumental Earthworks of Poverty Point  
 San Antonio Missions

### **Uruguay**

Historic Quarter of the City of Colonia del Sacramento  
 Fray Bentos Industrial Landscape

### **Uzbekistan**

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

### **Vanuatu**

Chief Roi Mata's Domain

### **Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)**

Coro and its Port  
 Canaima National Park  
 Ciudad Universitaria de Caracas

### **Viet Nam**

Complex of Hué Monuments

Ha Long Bay

Hoi An Ancient Town

My Son Sanctuary

Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park

Central Sector of the Imperial Citadel of Thang Long - Hanoi

Citadel of the Ho Dynasty

Trang An Landscape Complex

### **Yemen**

Old Walled City of Shibam

Old City of Sana'a

Historic Town of Zabid

Socotra Archipelago

### **Zambia**

Mosi-oa-Tunya / Victoria Falls # \*

### **Zimbabwe**

Mana Pools National Park, Sapi and Chewore Safari Areas

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 44<sup>th</sup> 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 86<sup>th</sup> 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.

## **Various India States Dance forms**

<b>STATE</b>	<b>NAME OF THE DANCE</b>
Andhra Pradesh	Kuchipudi, Kolattam, Dhimsa, Veeranatyam
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
West Bengal	Gambhira, Kalikapatadi, Nanci, Alkap, Domni

## Important Fairs

**1. Khumbh Mela:** Kumbh 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.

**2. 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.

**3. 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.

**4. 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.

**5. 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.

**6. 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.

**7. 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.

**8. 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.