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GENERAL INFORMATION

INDIA AT A GLANCE

Total Area	32,87,263 sq. km.
Population	1.21 Billion (121cr)
Maximum population	Uttar Pradesh
Minimum populaion	Sikkim (State), Lakshdweep (UT)
Highest Literacy rate	Kerala
Lowest in literacy rate	Bihar
Capital	New Delhi
Sates	28
U.T.	8
Highest density of population	West Bengal
Lowest density of population	Arunachal Pradesh
Highest density of population (UT)	Delhi
Lowest density of population (UT)	Andaman & Nicobar Islands
Largest in area	Rajasthan
Minimum area	Goa
Official Language	Hindi in Devanagari script is the official language of the Union.

National Flag: The National Flag of India is a horizontal rectangular tricolour of India saffron, white and India green; with the Ashoka Chakra, a **24-spoke wheel**, in navy blue at its centre. Its design is that of the wheel (Chakra) which appears on the abacus of the Sarnath Lions Capital of Ashoka. It was adopted in its present form during a meeting of the Constituent Assembly held on **22 July 1947**, and it became the official flag of the Dominion of India on **15 August 1947**. The flag was subsequently retained as that of the Republic of India. In India, the term “tricolour” almost always refers to the Indian national flag. The flag is based on the Swaraj flag, a flag of the Indian National Congress designed by Pingali Venkayya.

National Emblem: The State Emblem of India is the national emblem of India and is used by the national government, many state governments and government agencies. The emblem is an adaptation of the Lion Capital of Ashoka, a statue from 280 BCE. The statue is a dimensional emblem showing four lions. It became the emblem of the Dominion of India in December 1947, and later the emblem of the Republic of India. It shows three Lions with open mouths (the fourth which is visible in the Ashoka pillar is invisible in the state Emblem considered hidden from view). The actual Sarnath capital features four Asiatic lions standing back to back, symbolising **power, courage, confidence, and pride**, mounted on a circular base. At the bottom is a horse and a bull, and at its centre is a **Dharma chakra**. The abacus is girded with a frieze of sculptures in high relief of The Lion of the North, The Horse of the West, The Bull of the South and The Elephant of the East, separated by intervening wheels, over a lotus in full bloom, exemplifying the fountainhead of life and creative inspiration. Carved from a single block of sandstone, the polished capital is crowned by the Wheel of the Law. The State Emblem was adopted by the Government of India on **January 26, 1950**.

National Anthem : Jana Gana Mana is the national anthem of India. It was originally composed as Bharoto Bhagyo Bidhata in Bengali by polymath Rabindranath Tagore. The first stanza of the song Bharoto Bhagyo Bidhata was adopted by the Constituent Assembly of India as the National Anthem on **24 January 1950**. **A formal rendition of the national anthem takes approximately 52 seconds**. A shortened version consisting of the first and last lines (and taking about 20 seconds to play) is also staged occasionally. **It was first publicly sung on 27 December 1911 at the Calcutta (now Kolkata) Session of the Indian National Congress.**

National Song: Vande Mataram is a poem written in Sanskrit by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee in **1870s**, which he included in his **1882 Bengali novel Anandamath**. The poem was first sung by Rabindranath Tagore in the **1896** session of the Indian National Congress. The first two verses of the song were adopted as the National Song of India in **October 1937** by the Congress Working Committee prior to the end of colonial rule in **August 1947**.

National Animal : Tiger

National Flower : Lotus

National Fruit : Mango

National Calender : SAKA ERA (Chitra is first month)

National Bird : Peacock

National Aquatic Animal : Dolphin

National tree : Banyan Tree

PRESIDENTS OF INDIA

Dr Rajendra Prasad (1884-1963)	January 26, 1950 - May 13, 1962
Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan (1888-1975)	May 13, 1962 - May 13, 1967
Dr Zakir Hussain (1897-1969)	May 13, 1967 - May 03, 1969
Varahagiri Venkatagiri (1884-1980) (Acting)	May 03, 1969 - July 20, 1969
Justice Mohammad Hidayatullah (1905-1992) (Acting)	July 20, 1969 - August 24, 1969
Varahagiri Venkatagiri (1884-1980)	August 24, 1969 - August 24, 1974
Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed (1905-1977)	August 24, 1974 - February 11, 1977
B.D. Jatti (1913-2002) (Acting)	February 11, 1977 - July 25, 1977
Neelam Sanjiva Reddy (1913-1996)	July 25, 1977 - July 25, 1982
Giani Zail Singh (1916-1994)	July 25, 1982 - July 25, 1987
R. Venkataraman (1910-2009)	July 25, 1987 - July 25, 1992
Dr Shankar Dayal Sharma (1918-1999)	July 25, 1992 - July 25, 1997
K.R. Narayanan (1920-2005)	July 25, 1997 - July 25, 2002
Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam (1931-2015)	July 25, 2002 - July 25, 2007
Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil (Birth-1934)	July 25, 2007 - July 25, 2012
Shri Pranab Mukherjee (1935-2020)	July 25, 2012 - July 25, 2017
Shri Ram Nath Kovind (Birth-1945)	July 25, 2017 - Incumbent

VICE PRESIDENTS OF INDIA:

Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan (1888–1975)	13 May 1952 - 12 May 1962
Zakir Husain (1897–1969)	13 May 1962 - 12 May 1967
Varahagiri Venkata Giri (1894–1980)	13 May 1967 - 20 July 1969
Gopal Swarup Pathak (1896–1982)	31 August 1969 - 30 August 1974
Basappa Danappa Jatti (1912–2002)	31 August 1974 - 30 August 1979

Mohammad Hidayatullah (1905–1992)	31 August 1979 - 30 August 1984
Ramaswamy Venkataraman (1910–2009)	31 August 1984 - 24 July 1987
Shankar Dyal Sharma (1918-1999)	07 September 1987 - 24 July 1992
Kocheril Raman Narayanan (1921–2005)	21 August 1992 - 24 July 1997
Krishan Kant (1927–2002)	21 August 1997 - 27 July 2002
Bhairon Singh Shekhawat (1925–2010)	19 August 2002 - 21 July 2007
Mohammad Hamid Ansari (1937)	11 August 2007 - 10 August 2017
Muppavarapu Venkaiah Naidu (1949)	11 August 2017 - Incumbent

IMPORTANT PRIME MINISTERS OF INDIA

Jawaharlal Nehru (1889–1964)	15 August 1947 - 27 May 1964
Gulzarilal Nanda (1898–1998)	27 May 1964 - 9 June 1964
Lal Bahadur Shastri (1904–1966)	9 June 1964 - 11 January 1966
Gulzarilal Nanda (1898–1998)	11 January 1966 - 24 January 1966
Indira Gandhi (1917–1984)	24 January 1966 - 24 March 1977
Morarji Desai (1896–1995)	24 March 1977 - 28 July 1979
Charan Singh (1902–1987)	28 July 1979 - 14 January 1980
Indira Gandhi (1917–1984)	14 January 1980 - 31 October 1984
Rajiv Gandhi (1944–1991)	31 October 1984 - 2 December 1989
Vishwanath Pratap Singh (1931–2008)	2 December 1989 - 10 November 1990
P. V. Narasimha Rao (1921–2004)	21 June 1991 - 16 May 1996
Atal Bihari Vajpayee (1924-2018)	16 May 1996 - 01 June 1996
H.P. Deva Gowda (1933)	17 June 1996 - 21 April 1997
I.K. Gujral (1919-2012)	21 April 1997 - 19 March 1998
Atal Bihari Vajpayee (1924–2018)	19 March 1998 - 22 May 2004
Manmohan Singh (1932)	22 May 2004 - 26 May 2014
Narendra Modi (1950)	26 May 2014 - Incumbent

FIRST AND PRESENT OF INDIA

Chief Election officer	1st : Sukumar Sen
	Present : Sushil Chandra
Speaker of Lok Sabha	1st : G.V. Mavalankar
	Present : Om Birla
Chairman of Rajya Sabha	1st : Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan
	Present : Vice President Muppavarapu Venkaiah Naidu
Chief Justice of India	1st : Harilal j Kania
	Present : N. V. Ramana

INDIAN MILITARY AIRCRAFTS

Dassault Rafale	France
Sukhoi Su-30	Russia
HAL Tejas	India
MiG-29	India
Mirage 2000	France
SEPECAT Jaguar	France
MiG-21	Russia
Ilyushin Il-78	Russia
C-130J Super Hercules	USA
HAL Light Combat Helicopter	India
Boeing AH-64 Apache	United States
Mi-24	Russia
HAL Rudra	India
CH-47 Chinook	United States
Mi-26	Russia
Mi-17	Russia
HAL Dhruv	India
HAL Light Utility Helicopter	India
HAL Chetak	France / India
HAL Cheetah	France / India

WARSHIPS OF INDIA NAVY

Ship	Type	Origin
INS Vikramaditya	Aircraft carrier	Russia
INS Jalashwa (L41)	Amphibious transport dock (LPD)	USA
INS Kolkata	Stealth guided missile destroyer	India
INS Delhi (D61)	Guided missile destroyer	India
INS Ranvijay (D55)	Guided missile destroyer	Soviet Union
INS Shivalik	Stealth guided missile frigate	India
INS Brahmaputra	Guided missile frigate	India
INS Kora	Corvette	India
INS Kalvari	Attack submarine	France/ India
INS Sindhuraj (S57)	Attack submarine	Russia

POLITICAL PARTIES OF INDIA

Name	Abbreviation	ideology	Founded	Founders	Leaders
All India Trinamool Congress	AITC (popularly as TMC)	Socialism Secularism Anti-communism	1 January 1998	• Mamata Banerjee	Mamata Banerjee
Bahujan Samaj Party	BSP	Social equality Self-respect	14 April 1984	• Kanshi Ram	Mayawati
Bharatiya Janata Party	BJP	Neoliberalism Hindu Nationalism Integral humanism Conservatism Right-wing populism	6 April 1980	• Syama Prasad Mukherjee (as Bharatiya Jana Sangh) • Atal Bihari Vajpayee • L. K. Advani	Jagat Prakash Nadda
Communist Party of India	CPI	Communism Marxism-Leninism	26 December 1925	• Shripad Amrit Dange • S. V. Ghate • Muzaffar Ahmed • Singaravelu Chettiar • Shaukat Usmani • Ghulam Hussain • K. N. Joglekar • P. C. Joshi • S. S. Mirajkar	D. Raja
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	CPI(M)	Communism Marxism	7 November 1964	• P. Sundarayya • E. M. S. Namboodiripad • Jyoti Basu • Sitaram Yechury	
Indian National Congress	INC	Big tent Social democracy Democratic socialism Social liberalism Secularism Progressivism	28 December 1885	• Allan Octavian Hume	Sonia Gandhi (Interim President)
National People's Party	NPP	Ethnocentrism	6 January 2013	• P. A. Sangma • Conrad Sangma	
Nationalist Congress Party	NCP	Liberalism	10 June 1999	• Sharad Pawar • P. A. Sangma • Tariq Anwar • Sharad Pawar	

IMPORTANT DAYS

Jan 12	National Youth Day	Birthday of Swami Vivekananda
Jan 15	Army Day	Field Marshall K.M. Cariappa took over the command of Army on this day in 1949 from the British.
Jan 27	International Holocaust Day	The largest Nazi death camp, Auschwitz-Birkenau, was liberated by Soviet troops on Jan 27, 1945.
Jan 30	Martyr's Day	Martyrdom day of Mahatma Gandhi
Feb 14	St. Valentine's Day	-
Feb 28	National Science Day	Marks the discovery of Raman Effect in 1928 by C.V. Raman
Mar 8	International Women's Day	-
Mar 15	World Consumer Day	President John F Kennedy formally addressed the issue of consumer rights on this day in 1963.
Apr 7	World Health Day	WHO was formed on this day in 1948, but the first World Health Day was observed in 1950.
Apr 12	International Day of Human Space Flight	Yuri Gagarin, the Soviet Cosmonaut made the first space flight on this day in 1961.
May 1	International Worker's Day	-
May 8	International Red Cross Day	JH Dunant, the man behind Red Cross was born on this day in 1828.
May 11	National Technology Day	Nuclear tests at Pokhran carried out in 1998 on this day.
May 21	Anti-terrorism Day	Former PM Shri Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated on this day in 1991.
Jun 5	World Environment Day	-
Jun 21	International Yoga Day	-
Jul 1	National Doctors Day (India)	Birthday of Dr. Bidhan Chandra Ray
Jul 11	World Population Day	Inspired by 5 Billion Day in 1987
Jul 12	Malala Day	Birthday of Malala Yousafzai
Aug 6	Hiroshima Day	Bombing of Hiroshima on 6 Aug, 1945
Aug 7	National Handloom Day	Launching of Swadeshi Movement on 7 Aug, 1905
Aug 9	August Kranti Diwas	Launch of Quit India Movement in 1942
Aug 19	World Humanitarian Day	Commemorates the day when 22 aid workers were killed in a bombing at the UN headquarters in Baghdad in 2003
Aug 20	Sadbhawna Diwas	Birthday of Shri Rajiv Gandhi (1944)
Aug 29	National Sports Day	Birthday of Shri Dhyanchand (1905)
Sep 5	Teacher's Day	Birthday of Dr. Radhakrishnan (1888)
Sep 8	International Literacy Day	-
Sep 14	Hindi Diwas	Hindi accorded the Official language status by the Constituent Assembly on this day in 1949.
Sep 15	Engineers' Day	Birthday of Sri M Visvesvaraya.
Sep 27	World Tourism Day	Statutes of United Nations World Tourism Organisation adopted on this day in 1980.
Oct 2	International Non-violence Day	Birthday of Mahatma Gandhi (1869)