

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

FIRST IN THE WORLD

- | | |
|--|---|
| * First Chinese visitor to India | <i>Fahien</i> |
| * First foreign invader of India | <i>Alexander, the Great (Greek)</i> |
| * First person to climb Mt. Everest | <i>Tenzing Norgay (India) and Edmund Hillary (New Zealand) (1953)</i> |
| * First atom bomb dropped at | <i>Hiroshima (Japan)</i> |
| * First man in the space | <i>Yuri Gagarin (former USSR)</i> |
| * First woman in the space | <i>Valentina Tereshkova (former USSR)</i> |
| * First person to walk in the space | <i>Alexei Leonov (former USSR)</i> |
| * First person to land on the moon | <i>Neil Armstrong (USA)</i> |
| * First and the only woman to have climbed Mt. Everest twice | <i>Santosh Yadav (Indian; May 12, 1992; May 10, 1993)</i> |
| * First person on Mt. Everest without oxygen | <i>Phu Dorjee (Indian; May 9, 1984)</i> |
| * First person to climb Mt. Everest twice | <i>Nawang Gombu</i> |
| * First person to climb Mt. Everest maximum times | <i>Chhewang Nima Sherpa (19 times)</i> |
| * First President of the USA | <i>George Washington</i> |
| * First woman Prime Minister | <i>Sirimavo Bandaranaike (Sri Lanka)</i> |
| * First person to swim across English Channel | <i>Mathew Webb</i> |
| * First woman to swim across English Channel | <i>Gertrude Caroline Ederle</i> |
| * First woman to climb Mt. Everest | <i>Junko Tabei (Japan)</i> |
| * First woman to climb Mt. Everest alone and without oxygen supplies | <i>Alison Hargreaves (Briton: May 13, 1995)</i> |
| * First Aeroplane to fly around the world without refuelling | <i>Voyager (Dec. 1986)</i> |
| * First test-tube Baby | <i>Louise Brown (UK; 1978)</i> |
| * First all-talking Film | <i>Jaz Singer (1927)</i> |
| * First Secretary-General of the UN | <i>Trygve Lie (Norway: 1946-53)</i> |
| * First woman President of the UN General Assembly | <i>Vijayalakshmi Pandit (India: 1953)</i> |
| * First woman to reach North Pole | <i>Ann Bancroft (1986)</i> |
| * First person to reach North Pole | <i>Robert Peary</i> |
| * First person to reach South Pole | <i>Amundsen (1911)</i> |
| * First woman to command Spacecraft in Space | <i>Ellin Collins</i> |

SUPERLATIVES (WORLD)

(The Largest, Biggest, Smallest, Longest, Highest)

Airport	<i>Largest</i>	King Fahd International Airport, Dammam (Saudi Arabia)
Animal,	<i>Tallest</i>	Giraffe (Average height 6.09 m)
	<i>Largest and Heaviest</i>	Blue Whale (190 tonnes)
	<i>Longest recorded</i>	Boot lace Worm (55 m)
	<i>Fastest</i>	Cheetah (Approximately 100 km/hr)

Bay,	<i>With max. shore line</i>	Hudson Bay (Canada: 12268 km)
	<i>With maximum area</i>	Bay of Bengal (India: 217 million hc)
Bridge,	<i>Highest</i>	Sidu River Bridge (China: 1627 ft)
Building,	<i>Tallest</i>	Burj Khalifa (Dubai, 818 meter)
Canal,	<i>Big ship (longest)</i>	Suez Canal (160 km)
	<i>Busiest</i>	Kiel Canal (North Sea)
Canyon/Gorge, Deepest		Hells Canyon, Snake River (Idaho : 7900 ft)
	<i>Largest</i>	Grand Canyon (Colorado River; USA; 446 km)
Church,	<i>Largest</i>	Basilica of St. Peter (Vatican City Rome– Area 23000 sq.m.)
City,	<i>Largest in Area</i>	Jiuquan Gansu, China (Area 1,67,996 Sq km)
Continent,	<i>biggest</i>	Asia (30,928,605 km ²)
	<i>Smallest</i>	Australia Mainland (Area 8,426,635 km ²)
Country,	<i>Largest in Population</i>	China (over 138.5 crore)
	<i>Largest in Area</i>	Russia (17,075,000 sq. km)
	<i>With largest electorate</i>	India (over 90 crores)
	<i>Smallest independent</i>	State of Vatican City (109 acre)
	<i>With most land frontiers</i>	China (16)
Dam,	<i>Largest (concrete)</i>	Grand Coulee Dam (1272 m on Columbia River (Washington State, USA)
	<i>Highest</i>	Jinping-I (305 m)
Delta,	<i>Largest</i>	Sundarban's Ganga-Brahmaputra delta (1,05,000 sq. km)
Desert,	<i>Largest</i>	Sahara (N. Africa; maximum length 5,150 km EW; maximum width 3,200 km NS)
Diamond,	<i>Largest</i>	The Cullinan (3106 carats)
Dome,	<i>Largest</i>	Singapore National Stadium (310 m)
Epic,	<i>Longest</i>	Mahabharata
Fish,	<i>Largest fresh water</i>	Plabeuk (China, Laos and Thailand)
	<i>Most abundant</i>	Bristle mouth
	<i>Most venomous</i>	Stone Fish (Indo-Pacific Waters)
Film,	<i>Most Oscars</i>	Ben Hur (11 Oscars–1959); Titanic (11 Oscars–1998); The Lord of Rings : The Return of the King (11 Oscars—2003).
Fountain,	<i>Tallest</i>	King Fahd's Fountain (Jeddah, Saudi Arabia)
Fruit,	<i>Most nutritive</i>	Avocado (Vitamins A, C, E and Proteins; Central and South America)
	<i>Least nutritive</i>	Cucumber
Goldmine,	<i>Largest in area</i>	Grasberg Mines (Fapua, Indonesia)
Gulf,	<i>Largest</i>	Gulf of Mexico (1,544,000 sq. km)
Hotel,	<i>Tallest</i>	JW Marriott Marquis, Dubai (355 meter, 77 Floor)
	<i>Largest (with most rooms)</i>	Hotel Rossiya (Moscow; Russia; 12 storey; 3,200 rooms)
Island,	<i>Biggest</i>	Greenland (now known as Kalaatdlit Nunaat—2,175,000 sq km)
Lake,	<i>Largest</i>	Caspian Sea (Azerbaijan, Russia, Iran border: 37.18 lakh km ²)
	<i>Deepest</i>	Baikal (Siberia)
	<i>Largest (fresh water)</i>	Superior Lake (USA—Canada border: 82,350 km ²)
Library,	<i>Biggest</i>	United States Library of Congress (Washington D.C. founded in 1800, contains 101 million items)
	<i>Biggest non-statutory</i>	New York Public Library
Mountain,	<i>Highest peak</i>	Mt. Everest (8848 m; Nepal)
	<i>Highest range</i>	Himalayas, Asia (upto 4200 m)
	<i>Greatest mountain range</i>	Himalaya-Karakoram (96 out of 109 peaks over 7315 m are here)

Museum,	<i>Largest</i>	American Museum of Natural History, New York
Ocean,	<i>Largest and Deepest</i>	The Pacific (Area: 166,240,000 km ² ; Depth: 10,924 m)
Peninsula,	<i>Largest</i>	Arabia (3.25 million sq. km)
Park,	<i>Largest</i>	National Park of North-Eastern, Greenland (972000 km ²)
Places,	<i>Coldest (annual mean)</i>	Polus Nedostupnosti (Antarctica –58°C)
	<i>Driest (annual mean)</i>	Desierto de Atacame (near Calama; Chile; rainfall nil)
	<i>Hottest (annual mean)</i>	Dallol (Ethiopia; 34.4°C mean temperature)
	<i>Rainiest (annual mean)</i>	Mowsyrnam near Cherapunji (Meghalaya; India; 11873 mm)
	<i>Windiest</i>	The Commonwealth Bay (Gales reach 320 km/ph)
Planet,	<i>Biggest</i>	Jupiter (equatorial diameter 142984 km)
	<i>Brightest, hottest and nearest to Earth</i>	Venus
	<i>Nearest to Sun</i>	Mercury
	<i>Most satellites</i>	Saturn (82)
Plateau,	<i>Highest</i>	Tibetan Plateau (Central Asia: 4900 m)
Platform,	<i>Longest (rail)</i>	Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh; India, 1355.4 m. long)
Port,	<i>Largest</i>	Port of New York and New Jersey (USA)
Port,	<i>Busiest</i>	Rotterdam (Netherlands)
Railway Line,	<i>Longest</i>	Trans-Siberian Railway (Moscow-Nakhodka: 9438 km)
Railway Station,	<i>Largest</i>	Grand Central Terminal (New York City; 19 hc)
	<i>Highest</i>	Condor (Bolivia; 4786 m)
Religion,	<i>Oldest</i>	Hinduism
Religion,	<i>Largest</i>	Christianity
Rivers,	<i>Longest</i>	(i) Nile (6650 km) (ii) Amazon (6437 km)
Road,	<i>Longest</i>	Pan American Highway (from Alaska-Brasila: 24140 km)
Sea,	<i>Largest</i>	South China Sea (2,974,600 sq. km)
	<i>Largest (inland)</i>	Mediterranean
Stadium,	<i>Largest</i>	Strahov stadium at Prague (Czechoslovakia 240,000 spectators)
Star,	<i>Brightest</i>	Sirius A (also called Dog Star)
Swimming	<i>Longest</i>	English Channel
Telescope,	<i>Largest (radio)</i>	Five Hundred meter Apertune Spherical Telescope (FAST), China.
	<i>Largest (solar)</i>	Kitt Peak National Observatory, (Arizona; USA)
	<i>Largest refractor</i>	At Yerkes observatory (Wisconsin; USA; 18.9 m)
Temple,	<i>Largest</i>	Angkor Wat (Cambodia: 402 acres)
Tower,	<i>Tallest</i>	Tokyo Sky Tree (634 m.)
Train,	<i>Fastest</i>	Japan's magnetically levitated (magler) train (Speed over 500 km/hr)
Tunnel,	<i>Longest (railway)</i>	Gotthard Base Rail Tunnel (Switzerland; 57.1 km)
	<i>Largest (road)</i>	Laerdal, Norway (24.51 km)
Volcano	<i>Greatest concentration in</i>	Indonesia
	<i>Highest (extinct)</i>	Cerro Aconcagua (6960 m; Andes)
	<i>Highest (dormant)</i>	Volcan Llullaillaco (6723 m; Argentina-Chile)
	<i>Highest (active)</i>	Ojos del Salado (Chile-Argentina)
Waterfall,	<i>Highest</i>	Salto-Angel (in Venezuela on a branch of river Carrao, depth 807 m.)
	<i>Largest</i>	Khone Falls (Laos; width 10.8 km)
Zoo,	<i>Largest</i>	Etosha Reserve (Namibia; area 10 million hc approx.).

CAPITAL & CURRENCIES

<i>Country</i>	<i>Capital</i>	<i>Currency</i>
* Afghanistan	Kabul	Afghani
* Albania	Tirana	Lek
* Algeria	Algiers	Dinar
* Angola	Luanda	New Kwanza
* Argentina	Buenos Aires	Peso
* Armenia	Yeravan	Dram
* Australia	Canberra	Dollar
* Austria	Vienna	Euro
* Azerbaijan	Baku	Manat
* Bahrain	Manama	Dinar
* Bangladesh	Dhaka	Taka
* Barbados	Bridgetown	Dollar
* Belarus	Minsk	Ruble
* Belgium	Brussels	Euro
* Benin	Porto Novo	Franc
* Bhutan	Thimphu	Ngultrum ¹
* Bolivia	La paz	Dollar
* Botswana	Gaborone	Pula
* Brazil	Brasilia	Real
* Bosnia Herzegovina	Sarajevo	Dinar
* Bulgaria	Sofia	Lev
* Cambodia	Phnom-Penh	Riel
* Canada	Ottawa	Dollar
* Chile	Santiago	Peso
* China	Beijing	Yuan
* Colombia	Bogota	Peso
* Congo	Brazzaville	Franc
* Croatia	Zagreb	Kuna
* Cuba	Havana	Peso
* Cyprus	Nicosia	Euro
* Czech Republic	Prague	Koruna
* Denmark	Copenhagen	Krone
* Ecuador	Quito	Sucre
* Egypt	Cairo	Pound
* Estonia	Tallinn	Euro
* Ethiopia	Addis Ababa	Birr
* Fiji	Suva	Dollar
* Finland	Helsinki	Euro
* France	Paris	Euro
* Georgia	Tbilisi	Lari
* Germany	Berlin	Euro
* Ghana	Accra	Cedi
* Greece	Athens	Euro
* Guatemala	Guatemala City	Quetzal
* Guyana	George Town	Dollar
* Hungary	Budapest	Forint

<i>Country</i>	<i>Capital</i>	<i>Currency</i>
* Iceland	Reykjavik	Krona
* India	New Delhi	Rupee
* Indonesia	Jakarta	Rupiah
* Iran	Teheran	Rial
* Iraq	Baghdad	Dinar
* Ireland	Dublin	Euro
* Israel	Jerusalem	Shekel
* Italy	Rome	Euro
* Jamaica	Kingston	Dollar
* Japan	Tokyo	Yen
* Jordan	Amman	Dinar
* Kazakhstan	Akmola	Tenge
* Kenya	Nairobi	Shilling
* Korea (S)	Seoul	Won
* Korea (N)	Pyongyang	Won
* Kyrgyzstan	Bishkek	Som
* Kuwait	Kuwait City	Dinar
* Laos	Vientiane	Kip
* Latvia	Riga	Euro
* Lebanon	Beirut	Pound
* Liberia	Monrovia	Dollar
* Libya	Tripoli	Dinar
* Lithuania	Vilnius	Litas
* Luxembourg	Luxembourg	Euro
* Macedonia	Skopje	Dinar
* Malawi	Lilongwe	Kwacha
* Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur	Ringgit
* Maldives	Male	Rufiyaa
* Mali	Bamako	Franc
* Mauritius	Port Louis	Rupee
* Mexico	Mexico City	Peso
* Moldavia	Chisinau	Leu
* Mongolia	Ulan Bator	Tugrik
* Morocco	Rabat	Dirham
* Mozambique	Maputo	Metical
* Myanmar	Nay Pyi Taw	Kyat
* Namibia	Winhoek	Dollar
* Nepal	Kathmandu	Rupee
* Netherlands	Amsterdam	Euro
* New Zealand	Wellington	Dollar
* Nigeria	Abuja	Naira
* Norway	Oslo	Krone
* Oman	Muscat	Rial
* Pakistan	Islamabad	Rupee
* Panama	Panama City	Balboa
* Peru	Lima	New Sole
* Philippines	Manila	Peso
* Poland	Warsaw	Zloty

Country	Capital	Currency	Country	Capital	Currency
* Portugal	Lisbon	Euro	* Taiwan	Taipei	Dollar
* Qatar	Doha	Riyal	* Tanzania	Dodoma	Shilling
* Romania	Bucharest	Leu	* Thailand	Bangkok	Baht
* Russia	Moscow	Ruble	* Tunisia	Tunis	Dinar
* Saudi Arabia	Riyadh	Rial	* Turkey	Ankara	Lira
* Senegal	Dakar	Franc	* Turkmania	Ashikabad	Manat
* Slovakia	Bratislava	Euro	* Uganda	Kampala	Shilling
* Spain	Madrid	Euro	* Ukraine	Kiev	Hyrvnia
* Sri Lanka	Colombo	Rupee	* United Arab Emirates	Abu Dhabi	Dirham
* Sudan	Khartoum	Dinar	* U.K.	London	Pound Sterling
* Suriname	Paramaribo	Guilder	* U.S.A.	Washington	Dollar
* Sweden	Stockholm	Krona	* Uruguay	Montevideo	Peso
* Switzerland	Berne	Swiss Francs	* Uzbekistan	Tashkent	Som
* Syria	Damascus	Pound	* Venezuela	Caracas	Bolivar
* South Africa	Capetown	Rand	* Vietnam	Hanoi	Dong
	(Legislative)		* Yemen	Sana'a	Rial
	Pretoria		* Zimbabwe	Harare	Dollar
	(Administrative)		* Congo (Zaire)	Kinshasa	Zaire
* Tadzhikistan	Dushanbe	Ruble	* Zambia	Lusaka	Kwacha

GEOGRAPHICAL EXPLORATIONS/DISCOVERIES

Place	Explorer/Discoverer	Nationality	Year
America	Christopher Columbus	Italy	1492
Hawaii Islands (Sandwich Islands)	Captain James Cook	England	1778
Newfoundland	John Cabot	England	1497
New Zealand	Abel Janszoon Tasman	Holland	1642
North Pole	Robert Peary	USA	1909
Sea Route to India (via Cape of Good Hope)	Vasco da Gama	Portugal	1498
South Pole	Roald Amundsen	Norway	1911

NATIONAL MONUMENTS OF SOME FAMOUS COUNTRIES

Monument	Country	Monument	Country
Great Wall of China	China	Pyramid (Giza)	Egypt
Taj Mahal (Agra)	India	Kinder Disk	Denmark
Emperial Palace (Tokyo)	Japan	Leaning Tower of Pisa	Italy
Opera House (Sydney)	Australia	Statue of Liberty (New York)	USA
Eiffel Tower (Paris)	France	Kremlin (Moscow)	Russia

INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES OF SOME PROMINENT COUNTRIES

Country	Intelligence Agency
* India	Research & Analysis Wing (RAW), Intelligence Bureau (I.B.), Central Bureau of Investigation (C.B.I.)
* Pakistan	Inter Service Intelligence (I.S.I.)
* U.S.A.	Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
* Britain	Military Intelligence (M.I.)-5 and 6, Special Branch, Ultra, Joint Intelligence Organisation

* Israel	<i>Mosad</i>
* Egypt	<i>Mukhabarat</i>
* Japan	<i>Nicho</i>
* Russia	<i>K.G.B. (Komitel Gosudarstvennoy Bezopasnosty) (Committee for State Security)</i>
* Canada	<i>Security Intelligence Service (SIS)</i>
* S. Africa	<i>Bureau of State Security (BSS)</i>
* Iran	<i>Sabak</i>
* Iraq	<i>Al-Mukhabarat</i>
* Australia	<i>Australian Security and Intelligence Organisation (ASIO)</i>
* France	<i>S.D.E.C.E.</i>
* Spain	<i>C.E.S.I.D.</i>

MAJOR LANGUAGES OF THE WORLD AND THEIR SPEAKERS

Listing the languages spoken by approximately 1% of humankind (those spoken by more than 60,000,000 people), this table enumerates speakers of each tongue as a primary language.

Language	Speakers (millions)
* Chinese	1,298.6
* Spanish	442.4
* English	378.3
* Arabic	315.3
* Hindi	260.0
* Bengali	242.7
* Portuguese	222.7
* Russian	153.9
* Japanese	128.2
* Lahnda	118.2
* Punjabi (Western)	93
* Javanese	84
* Korean	77.2
* French	76.8
* German	76.0
* Telugu	74.8
* Turkish	78.5

* Marathi	71.8
* Urdu	69.2
* Vietnamese	68
* Tamil	66.7
* Italian	64.8
* Persian	61.5
* Malay	60.7

Source : The World Almanac 2019

IMPORTANT NEWS AGENCIES OF THE WORLD

Agency	Country
PTI, UNI, UNIVARTA	India
Antara	Indonesia
Tanjung	Serbia
Associated Press (AP)	America
Reuters, NAFEN	United Kingdom
Angence France Press (AFP)	France
TASS	Russia

NAME OF PARLIAMENTS OF SOME COUNTRIES

Country	Name of Parliament
Afghanistan	Shora
Argentina	National Congress
Australia	Federal Parliament
Austria	National Assembly
Bangladesh	Jatiya Sansad
India	Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha
Bhutan	Tshogdu (National Assembly)
Britain	House of Commons and House of Lords
Canada	House of Commons and Senate
China	National People Congress
Denmark	Folketing

Country	Name of Parliament
Iran	Majlis (Islamic Consultative Assembly)
Israel	Knesset
Japan	Diet
Myanmar	Pyithu Hluttaw (People's Assembly)
Nepal	Rashtriya Panchayat
The Netherlands	States-General
Norway	Storting
Poland	Sejm
Russia	Federal Assembly (Council of the Federation and State Duma)
South Africa	National Assembly and Senate

Country	Name of Parliament	Country	Name of Parliament
Spain	Cortes Generales	U.S.A.	Congress (Senate and House of Representatives)
Sweden	Riksdag	Ethiopia	Federal Council and House of Representatives
Switzerland	Federal Assembly (Nationalrat and Standerat)	Iceland	Alpingi
North Korea	Supreme People's Assembly	Bulgaria	National Assembly
South Korea	National Assembly	Cuba	National Assembly of People's Power

LARGEST AND SMALLEST COUNTRIES (Top 5)

Largest Country	Largest Country	Smallest Country	Smallest Country
(Area-wise)	(Population-wise)	(Area-wise)	(Population-wise)
Russia	China	Vatican City	Vatican City
Canada	India	Monaco	Tuvalu
China	USA	Nauru	Palau
United States	Indonesia	Tuvalu	San Marino
Brazil	Brazil	San Marino	Liechtenstein

RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD

Religion	Member	Percentage	Religion	Member	Percentage
Christianity	2.4 billion	33.0%	Buddhism	521 million	7.0%
Islam	1.7 billion	23.6%	Sikhism	25 million	0.36%
Hinduism	1.01 billion	14%			

NATIONAL EMBLEMS OF IMPORTANT COUNTRIES

Country	National Emblem	Country	National Emblem
America	Golden Rod	Australia	Kangaroo
Ireland	Shamrock	Italy	White Lily
Israel	Candelabrum	Iran	Rose
Canada	White Lily	Great Britain	Rose
Chile	Candor and Huemul	Germany	Corn Flower
Japan	Chrysanthemum	Zimbabwe	Zimbabwe Bird
Denmark	Beach	Turkey	Crescent and Star
The Netherlands	Lion	New Zealand	Kiwi, Fern Southern Cross
Norway	Lion	Nepal	Kukri
Pakistan	Crescent	Poland	Eagle
France	Lily	Belgium	Lion
Bangladesh	Water Lily	Mongolia	The Soyombo
Russia	Double headed eagle	Lebanon	Cedar Tree
Sudan	Secretary Bird	Syria	Eagle
India	Lion Capital		

FIRST IN INDIA

- * The first Indian to get the Nobel Prize for Literature
- * The first Indian to get the Nobel Prize for Physics
- * The first Indian to get the Nobel Prize for Peace
- * The first Indian to get the Nobel Prize for Economics
- * The first Indian to get Special Oscar award (1992)

Rabindra Nath Tagore
C.V. Raman
Mother Teresa
Amartya Sen
Satyajit Ray

- * The first and the last Indian Governor-General of free India *C. Rajagopalachari*
- * The first woman to become the Governor of a State *Smt. Sarojini Naidu*
- * The first Indian Chief of the Army Staff *General K.M. Cariappa*
- * The first ever woman to become the Chief Minister of a State *Smt. Sucheta Kripalani*
- * The first Indian woman President of UN General Assembly *Smt. Vijaylakshmi Pandit*
- * The first Indian to become the President of International Court of Justice *Dr. Nagendra Singh*
- * The first Indian woman to swim across the English Channel *Ms. Aarti Saha*
- * The first Indian girl to become Miss Universe *Miss Sushmita Sen*
- * The first Indian girl to become Miss World *Rita Faria*
- * The first Indian to swim across the English Channel *Mihir Sen*
- * The first Field Marshal *S.H.F.J. Manekshaw*
- * The first Indian recipient of Victoria Cross *Khudadad Khan*
- * The first Indian to conquer Mt. Everest *Sherpa Tenzing (May 29, 1953)*
- * The first Indian Cosmonaut (man) *Rakesh Sharma (April 3, 1984)*
- * The first Indian Cosmonaut (woman) *Kalpana Chawla (Nov. 19, 1997)*
- * The first woman to climb Mt. Everest *Miss Bachendri Pal (May 23, 1984)*
- * The first ICS *Satyendranath Tagore*
- * The first to address the UN General Assembly in Hindi *Atal Bihari Vajpayee*
- * The first Newspaper *Bengal Gazette (Jan 27, 1780)*
- * The first Postage Stamp issued *In 1852*
- * The first Telegraph line laid *In 1851 (Calcutta-Diamond Harbour)*
- * The first Railways run *April 16, 1853 (Bombay-Thane)*
- * The first Electric Train run *1925 (Bombay-Kurla)*
- * The first Atomic Power Station *Tarapore (Maharashtra)*
- * The first passenger-cum-cargo ship made in India *Harshavardhan*
- * The first Satellite *Aryabhatta (1975)*
- * The first President of the Indian National Congress *W.C. Banerjee*
- * The first President of Indian Republic *Dr. Rajendra Prasad*
- * The first woman judge of the Supreme Court *Ms Fatima Bibi*
- * The first to climb Everest without oxygen *Phu Dorjee (1987)*
- * The first film (movie) *Raja Harishchandra*
- * The first film (talkie) *Alam Ara*
- * The first Metro Railway *Calcutta Metro Railway*
- * The first Test-tube baby, scientifically documented *Born on August 6, 1986 at K.E.M. Hospital, Bombay*
- * The first TV Centre *At Delhi*
- * The first Indian to get an Oscar *Bhanu Athaiya*
- * The first woman pilot in IAF *Ms Harita Kaur Deol*
- * The first woman to get Olympic Medal *Karnam Malleswari*
- * The first woman Foreign Secretary *Chokila Iyer*
- * First Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) *General Bipin Rawat*

SUPERLATIVES (INDIA)

Highest, Biggest, Largest and Longest in India

- * Award for Gallantry, highest *Param Vir Chakra*
- * Award, highest civilian *Bharat Ratna*
- * Bank, with largest number of branches *State Bank of India*

* Road Bridge, Longest	<i>Bhupen Hazarika Bridge, Assam (9.15 km)</i>
* Road and Rail Bridge, Longest	<i>Bogibeel Bridge, Brahmaputra River, Assam</i>
* Cattle Fair, Largest	<i>Sonepur (Bihar)</i>
* City, Most Populous	<i>Mumbai metropolis</i>
* Corridor, Longest	<i>Rameshwaram Temple corridor (4,000 ft.)</i>
* Desert, Largest	<i>Thar (Rajasthan)</i>
* Dam, Longest	<i>Hirakud Dam (Odisha)</i>
* Delta, Largest	<i>Sunderban's Delta</i>
* Dome, Largest	<i>Gol Gumbaj (Bijapur)</i>
* Dam, Highest	<i>Tehri Dam (260 m)</i>
* Gateway, Highest	<i>Buland Darwaja at Fatehpur Sikri (176 ft.)</i>
* Fresh Water Lake, Largest	<i>Wular Lake (Kashmir)</i>
* Literacy, Highest	<i>Kerala (94%)</i>
* Museum, Largest	<i>Indian Museum (Kolkata)</i>
* Mosque, Biggest	<i>Jama Masjid (Delhi)</i>
* Peak, Highest**	<i>K-2 (Pak-Occupied Kashmir)</i>
* Platform, Longest	<i>At Gorakhpur, NE Railway (1335.4 mtrs)</i>
* Railway Bridge, longest	<i>Vembanad Bridge, Kerala (4.6 km)</i>
* River, Longest***	<i>The Ganges (2525 Km)</i>
* Rainfall, Highest (annual mean)	<i>Mowsynram near Cherrapunji (1178 cm)</i>
* Road Longest	<i>Grand Trunk Road (1,500 miles)</i>
* State, with maximum forest cover	<i>Madhya Pradesh</i>
* State, with maximum density of population	<i>Bihar</i>
* Telescope, Largest in Asia	<i>Vainu Bappu Telescope (at Kavalur: Chennai) 2.34m</i>
* Tunnel, Longest (Road)	<i>Chenani-Nashri Tunnel (9.28 kms, J & K)</i>
* Tunnel, Longest (Railway)	<i>Qazigund to Banihal (11.21 kms) Jammu & Kashmir.</i>
* Tallest Minaret	<i>Qutub Minar (Delhi 72.5 m.)</i>
* Waterfall, Highest	<i>Gersoppa Waterfall (Karnataka: 960 ft.)</i>
* Zoo, Largest	<i>Zoological Gardens (Kolkata)</i>

** Highest peak in the world is Mount Everest, which is in Nepal. K-2 is the second highest peak in the world. It is 8,611 metres high.

*** Indus and Brahmaputra (each 2900 km). Both of them, however, cover a long distance outside India.

TABLE OF PRECEDENCE

1. President
2. Vice-President
3. Prime Minister
4. Governors of States within their respective states
5. Former Presidents
- 5A. Deputy Prime Minister
6. Chief Justice of India, Speaker of Lok Sabha
7. Cabinet Ministers of the Union, Chief Ministers of States within their respective States
Deputy Chairman NITI Aayog, former Prime Ministers
Leaders of opposition in Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha
- 7A. Holders of the Bharat Ratna Decoration
8. Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and High Commissioners of Commonwealth Countries accredited to India, Chief Ministers of States outside their respective States
9. Judges of the Supreme Court
10. Deputy Chairman Rajya Sabha, Deputy Chief Minister of States, Deputy Speaker Lok Sabha, Members of the NITI Aayog, Minister of State of the Union and Other Minister in the Ministry of Defence.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS**FOREIGN**

Book	Author
* As You Like It	William Shakespeare
* A Tale of Two Cities	Charles Dickens
* Ben Hur	Lewis Wallace
* Das Kapital	Karl Marx
* David Copperfield	Charles Dickens
* Hamlet	William Shakespeare
* Iliad	Homer
* Inferno	A. Dante
* In Memoriam	Lord Tennyson
* Ivanhoe	Walter Scott
* Julius Caesar	William Shakespeare
* Lady Chatterley's Lover	D.H. Lawrence
* Lajja	Taslima Nasreen
* Les Miserable	Victor Hugo
* Leviathan	Thomas Hobbes
* Lolita	V. Nobokov
* Lycidas	John Milton
* Mein Kampf	Adolf Hitler
* Moor's Last Sigh	Salman Rushdie
* Mother	Maxim Gorky
* Mother India	Katherine Mayo
* Nana	Emile Zola
* Odyssey	Homer
* Origin of Species	Charles Darwin
* Othello	William Shakespeare
* Paradise Lost	John Milton
* Paradise Regained	John Milton
* Path to Power	Margaret Thatcher
* Pickwick Papers	Charles Dickens
* Razor's Edge	Somerseset Maugham
* Republic	Plato
* The Tempest	William Shakespeare
* Time Machine	H.G. Wells
* Tom Sawyer	Mark Twain
* Treasure Island	R.L. Stevenson
* Twelfth Night	William Shakespeare
* Unto This Last	John Ruskin
* Utopia	Thomas More
* Wealth of Nations	Adam Smith
* Wonder that was India	A.L. Basham

INDIAN

Book	Author
* Ain-i-Akbari	Abul Fazal
* Anand Math	Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
* Arthashastra	Kautilya
* A Suitable Boy	Vikram Seth
* Bhagwat Gita	Ved Vyas
* Chidambara	Sumitranandan Pant
* Devdas	Sarat Chandra Chatterjee
* Discovery of India	Jawaharlal Nehru
* Ganadevata	Tarashankar Bandopadhyaya
* Geet Govind	Jaya Dev
* Geetanjali	R. N. Tagore
* Glimpses of World History	Jawaharlal Nehru
* Godaan	Prem Chand
* Gul-e-Nagma	Firaq Gorakhpuri
* Harsh Charita	Bana Bhatta
* India Divided	Dr. Rajendra Prasad
* Justice of Peace	Janardan Prasad Singh
ke Aansu	
* The Judgement	Kuldip Nayyar
* Kadambari	Bana Bhatta
* Kagaz Te Kanwas	Amrita Pritam
* Kamayani	Jai Shankar Prasad
* Kitni Nawon Mein Kitni Bar	S. H. Vatsyayan
* Kumar Sambhav	Kalidas
* Mahabharata	Ved Vyas
* Malgudi Days	R.K. Narayan
* Meghdoot	Kalidas
* Mritunjaya	B.K. Bhattacharya
* Mudrarakshasa	Vishakhadatta
* Prison Diary	Jaya Prakash Narayan
* Raghuvansha	Kalidas
* Rajtarangini	Kalhana
* Ramayana	Balmiki
* Ramcharit Manas	Tulsidas
* Rukh Te Rishi	Harbhajan Singh
* Satyarth Prakash	Swami Dayanand
* Sur Sagar	Surdas
* The Guide	R.K. Narayan

IMPORTANT DATES AND DAYS OF THE YEAR*** JANUARY**

- 5-11 Road Safety Week
- 12 National Youth Day
- 15 Army Day
- 15-21 Pin Code Week

23 National Day of Patriotism

26 Republic Day

30 Martyr's Day

*** FEBRUARY**

1-14 Oil Conservation Fortnight

14 Valentine's Day

* **MARCH**

- 4 National Safety Day
- 8 International Women's Day
- 15 Consumers' Day
- 16 Immunisation Day
- 21 World Forest Day
- 22 World Day for Water
- 24 World Meteorological Day
- 1-7 Preservation of Blindness Week

* **APRIL**

- 7 World Health Day
- 7-13 Handloom Week
- 14-20 Fire Service Week
- 18 World Heritage Day
- 22 World Earth Day

* **MAY**

- 1 May Day
- 5 National Labour Day
- 8 World Red Cross Day
- 11 National Technology Day
- 15 International Day of the Family
- 17 World Telecommunication Day
- 24 Commonwealth Day
- 31 World No-Tobacco Day

* **JUNE**

- 5 World Environment Day
- 21 World Yoga Day
- 26 International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

* **JULY**

- 11 World Population Day

* **AUGUST**

- 1-7 World Breast feeding Week
- 10 Sanskrit Divas
- 15 Independence Day
- 20 Sadbhavana Divas

* **SEPTEMBER**

- 1-7 National Nutrition Week
- 5 Teachers' Day
- 8 International Literary Day
- 14 Hindi Diwas
- 23 World Deaf Day
- 27 World Tourism Day

* **OCTOBER**

- 2 Gandhi Jayanti
- International Day of Non Violence
- Anti-Leprosy Day
- 4 World Animal Day

6 World Habitat Day (1st Monday)

8 Indian Air Force Day

14 World Standard Day

15 International Day of Rural Women

16 World Food Day

24 United Nations Day

27 Infantry Day

28 World Thrift Day

31 Anti-Terrorism Day

* **NOVEMBER**

2 All Saints Day

14 Children's Day

15-21 National Cooperative Week

19-25 Quami Ekta Week

20 Child Rights Day

26 Constitution Day

* **DECEMBER**

1 World AIDS Day

3 World Day for the Disabled

4 Naval Day

7 Flag Day

8 SMRC Day

10 Human Rights Day

14 National Energy Conservation Day

INDIAN DEFENCE

- The Supreme Command of the Armed Forces is vested in the hands of the President of the Country.
- The responsibility for national defence, however, rests with the Cabinet. All important questions having a bearing on defence are decided by the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs, which is presided over by the Prime Minister.
- The Defence Minister is responsible to Parliament for all matters concerning the Defence Services.
- All the administrative and operational control of Armed Forces are exercised by the Ministry of Defence. The three services—Army, Navy and Air Force function through their respective service head-quarters headed by the chief of Staff.
- The post of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) was created in 2019.

Indian Army Commands

Command	HQ Location
Eastern Command	Kolkata
Western Command	Chandigarh
Northern Command	Udhampur
Southern Command	Pune
Central Command	Lucknow
Training Command	Shimla
South-Western Command	Jaipur

Indian Air Force Commands

Command	HQ Location
Western Air Command	New Delhi
Sout-Western Air Command	Gandhinagar
Central Air Command	Allahabad
Eastern Air Command	Shillong
Southern Air Command	Thiruvananthapuram
Training Command	Bengaluru

Indian Navy Commands

Command	HQ Location
Eastern Naval Command	Vishakhapatnam
Western Naval Command	Mumbai
Southern Naval Command	Cochin

Commissioned Ranks in Defence Services

Army	Navy	Air Force
General	Admiral	Air Chief Marshal
Lieutenant-General	Vice-Admiral	Air Marshal
Major-General	Rear-Admiral	Air Vice-Marshal
Brigadier	Commodor	Air Commodor
Colonel	Captain	Group Captain
Lieutenant-Colonel	Commander	Wing Commander
Major	Lt.Commander	Squadron Leader
Captain	Lieutenant	Flight Lieutenant
Lieutenant	Sub-Lieutenant	Flying Officer

Internal Security Organisations of India

S. No.	Name of Organisation	Year of Creation	Headquarters
1.	Assam Rifles (A.R.)	1835	Shillong
2.	Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)	1939	New Delhi
3.	Territorial Army	1948	In different States
4.	Indo-Tibetan Border Police	1962	New Delhi
5.	Home Guard	1962	In different States
6.	Coast Guard	1978	New Delhi
7.	Border Security Force (B.S.F.)	1965	New Delhi
8.	Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)	1969	New Delhi
9.	National Security Guard	1984	New Delhi
10.	Police	—	In different States

Army Institutes

1. Sainik Schools	33 places in India
2. Rashtriya Indian Military College (prepare for entrance to N.D.A.)	Dehradun
3. National Defence Academy (three services)	Khadakwasla, Pune
4. Indian Military Academy (Army)	Dehradun
5. Officers Training Academy (3 services) Short Courses	Chennai
6. National Defence College	New Delhi
7. The College of Combat	Mhow
8. The College of Military Engineering	Kirkee
9. Military College of Telecommunication Engineering	Mhow
10. The Armoured Corps Centre and School	Ahmed Nagar
11. The School Artillery	Deolali
12. The Infantry School	Mhow and Belgaum
13. College of Material Management	Jabalpur

Air Force Institutions

* Air Force Academy	Hyderabad	* Helicopter Training School	Hakimpet
* Flying Instructors School	Tambaram, Chennai	* The College of Air Warfare	Secunderabad
* Air Force Administrative College	Coimbatore	* Air Force Technical College	Jalahalli

UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION (UNO)

- The United Nations (UN) is an association of states which have pledged themselves to maintain international peace and security and cooperate in solving international political, economic, social cultural and humanitarian problems towards achieving this end.
- Trygve Lie of Norway (1946-52) was the first Secretary-General of the UN.
- **Origin:** UN Charter was signed by 50 members on June 26, 1945. Poland signed the charter later to become one of the original 51 member-states. It officially came into existence on October 24, 1945.
- **UN Charter:** The Charter is the Constitution of the UNO and contains its aims and objectives and rules and regulations for its functioning.
- **Aims and Objectives:** They are security, welfare and human rights.
- **Headquarters:** New York.
- **Flag:** The flag is light blue in colour, and emblazoned in white, in its centre is the UN symbol—a polar map of world embraced by twin olive branches open at the top.
- **Official Languages:** The official languages of the UN are: English, French, Chinese, Russian, Arabic and Spanish. However, working languages are English and French only.
- **Present Membership:** At present 193 countries are members of the UNO. South Sudan is the latest entrant to this world organisation.
- **Main Organs of the UNO:** There are six main organs:
 1. General Assembly
 2. Security Council
 3. Economic and Social Council
 4. Trusteeship Council
 5. International Court of Justice, and
 6. Secretariat.

1. **General Assembly:** It consists of representative of all members of the UN. Each member country has only one vote. It meets once a year and passes UN Budget. It is the main place for discussions and policy making in the UN.
2. **Security Council:** It is the Executive body of the UN and is mainly responsible for maintaining international peace and security. It has 15 members, 5 of which (USA, UK, France, Russia and China) are permanent members. The 10 non-permanent members are elected by General Assembly for two-year term and are not eligible for immediate re-election.
3. **Economic and Social Council:** It has 54 members elected by General Assembly.
4. **Trusteeship Council:** It looks after interest of the people in areas not yet independent and leads them towards self-government.
5. **International Court of Justice:** It has 15 judges, no two of whom may be nationals of the same state. They are elected by General Assembly and Security Council for a term of 9 years. The Court elects its President and Vice-President for a 3-year term.
6. **Secretariat:** It is the Secretariat of the UN and is headed by the Secretary General.

Some Important UN Agencies

UN Agencies	Headquarters	Year of Establishment
* United Nations Organisations (U.N.O.)	New York	1945
* International Monetary Fund (I.M.F.)	Washington	1945
* World Health Organisation (W.H.O.)	Geneva	1948
* Food & Agricultural Organisation (FAO)	Rome	1943
* International Labour Organisation (ILO)	Geneva	1919
* UNESCO	Paris	1946
* Universal Postal Union (UPU)	Berne	1874
* UNIDO	Vienna	1967
* International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)	Vienna	1957

* United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	New York	1965
* UNICEF	New York	1946
* International Maritime Organisation (IMO)	London	1948
* World Meteorological Organisation (WMO)	Geneva	1951
* International Telecommunication Union (ITU)	Geneva	1947
* World Trade Organisation (WTO)	Geneva	1995
* International Development Association (IDA)	Washington D.C.	1960
* World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO)	Geneva	1967

Famous International Organisations

International Organisations	Headquarters	Year of Establishment
* International Court of Justice	The Hague	1945
* International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)	Montreal	1947
* International Finance Corporation (IFC)	Washington	1956
* Arab League	Cairo	1945
* Commonwealth of Nations	London	1931
* International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)	Washington D.C.	1944
* Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)	Jeddah (Saudi Arabia)	1971
* European Economic Community (EEC)	Geneva	1957
* Red Cross	Geneva	1863
* Interpol	Lyons	1923
* Asian Development Bank (ADB)	Manila	1966
* North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)	Brussels	1949
* Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)	Jakarta	1967
* South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)	Kathmandu	1985
* Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)	Singapore	1989
* Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)	Paris	1961
* Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)	Vienna	1960
* Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)	Minsk	1991
* International Olympic Committee (IOC)	Switzerland	1894
* European Union (EU)	Brussels	Changed form of EEC Established in 1958
* Amnesty International (AI)	London	1961
* Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)	Beijing	2001
* BRICS Development Bank	Shanghai	2014

AWARDS AND HONOURS

NATIONAL AWARDS

BHARAT RATANA

- Bharat Ratna is India's highest Civilian Award. It was first awarded in 1954.
- The actual award is designed in the shape of a *peepal* leaf with Bharat Ratna inscribed in Devanagri script in the Sun Figure.

- This is India's highest civilian award. It is given for exceptional work on art, literature, science and recognition of public service of the highest order.
- The emblem, the Sun and the rim are of platinum. The inscriptions are in burnished bronze.
- Government servants are not eligible for it. The table shows the recipients of the award:

Bharat Ratna Award Winners

1.	Dr. S. Radhakrishnan	1954
2.	C. Rajagopalachari	1954
3.	Dr. C.V. Raman	1954
4.	Dr. Bhagwan Das	1955
5.	Dr. M. Visvesvaraya	1955
6.	Jawahar Lal Nehru	1955
7.	Govind Ballabh Pant	1957
8.	Dr. D.K. Karve	1958
9.	Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy	1961
10.	Purushottam Das Tandon	1961
11.	Dr. Rajendra Prasad	1962
12.	Dr. Zakir Hussain	1963
13.	Dr. Pandurang Vaman Kane	1963
14.	Lal Bahadur Shastri	1966
15.	Indira Gandhi	1971
16.	V.V. Giri	1975
17.	K. Kamraj	1976
18.	Mother Teresa	1980
19.	Acharya Vinoba Bhave	1983
20.	Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan	1987
21.	M.G. Ramachandran	1988
22.	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar	1990
23.	Dr. Nelson R. Mandela	1990
24.	Rajiv Gandhi	1991
25.	Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel	1991
26.	Morarji R. Desai	1991
27.	Maulana Abul Kalam Azad	1992
28.	Jehangir Ratanji Dadabhai Tata	1992
29.	Satyajit Roy	1992
30.	Shri Gulzari Lal Nanda	1997
31.	Mrs. Aruna Asaf Ali	1997
32.	Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam	1998
33.	M.S. Subbalakshmi	1998
34.	C. Subramaniam	1998
35.	Jaya Prakash Narayan	1999
36.	Prof. Amartya Sen	1999
37.	Pt. Ravi Shankar	1999
38.	Gopinath Bardoloi	1999
39.	Lata Mangeshkar	2001
40.	Bismillah Khan	2001
41.	Bhimsen Joshi	2009
42.	C.N.R. Rao	2014
43.	Sachin Tendulkar	2014
44.	Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya	2015
45.	Atal Bihari Vajpayee	2015
46.	Pranab Mukherjee	2019
47.	Bhupen Hazarika	2019
48.	Nanaji Deshmukh	2019

REPUBLIC DAY AWARDS**Padma Awards**

They fall in line after the Bharat Ratna. They are also discontinued in 1977 along with the Bharat Ratna and award was started again in 1980.

There are three Padma Awards:

- **Padma Vibhushan:** This award is given for exceptional and distinguished service in any field, including service rendered by Govt. servants.
- **Padma Bhushan:** This award is given for distinguished service of a high order in any field, including service rendered by Govt. servants.
- **Padma Shri:** This award is given for distinguished service in any field, including service rendered by Government servants.

Gallantry Awards

- **Param Vir Chakra:** The highest award for bravery or some daring and pre-eminent act of valour or self-sacrifice in the presence of the enemy, whether on land, at sea or in the air.
- **Mahavir Chakra:** It is the second highest decoration and is awarded for acts of conspicuous gallantry in the presence of the enemy, whether on land, at sea or in the air.
- **Vir Chakra:** It is the third in order of awards given for acts of gallantry in the presence of enemy, whether on land, at sea or in the air.
- **Ashok Chakra:** This medal is awarded for the most conspicuous bravery or some daring or pre-eminent act of valour or self-sacrifice on land, at sea or in the air but not in the presence of enemy.
- **Vishishta Sewa Medal:** It is awarded to personnel of all the three Services in class I, II and III in recognition of distinguished service of the “most exceptional” and “exceptional” and a “high” order respectively. Prefixes Parma and Ati are added before first two categories of medals respectively.
- **Jeewan Raksha Padak:** Awarded for meritorious acts or a series of acts of a human nature displayed in saving life from drowning, fire and rescue operations in mines etc.

OTHER NATIONAL AWARDS**SAHITYA AKADEMI AWARDS**

- These prizes are awarded annually to the authors of the most outstanding books of literary merit published in each of the 24 languages recognised by the Akademi.
- There are also two awards for Sanskrit and English. The award, in form of a casket containing an inscribed copper plate and a cheque of ₹ 1 lakh is given to the author or his/her heir.

DADA SAHEB PHALKE AWARD

- The award carries a cash prize of ₹ 10 lakh, a Shawl and Swarna Kamal.
- Mrs Devika Rani Roerich was the first person to receive Dadasaheb Phalke Award in 1969.

- The award for 2019 has been given to bollywood actor Rajinikanth.

BHARATIYA JNANPITH AWARD

- Instituted in 22nd May, 1961, carries a cash prize of ₹ 11 lakh, a citation and a bronze replica of Vagdevi (Saraswati).
- Instituted by a literary organisation in India.

SARASWATI SAMMAN

- Given for outstanding literary works, value ₹ 15 lakh.

KALINGA PRIZE

- This award is given each year by the UNESCO and founded by former Odisha Chief Minister late Shri Biju Patnaik for popularisation of science.

INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

NOBEL PRIZES

- These Prizes were instituted in 1901 by a Swedish scientist, Dr. Alfred Nobel; the discoverer of Dynamite.
- Six prizes are awarded annually for (i) Chemistry, (ii) Physics, (iii) Medicine, (iv) Literature, (v) Peace and (vi) Economics —started since 1969.
- Indians Honoured with Nobel Prize: So far, following Indians have been honoured with these prizes. Their names are (i) Rabindra Nath Tagore for Literature, for his book 'Gitanjali', in 1913, (ii) Dr. C.V. Raman for Physics in 1930, for his discovery of 'Raman Effect', (iii) Mother Teresa for Peace in 1979, (iv) Prof. Amartya Sen in 1998 for Economics and (v) Kailash Satyarthi for Peace in 2014. In addition, four non-resident Indians have also been awarded the Nobel Prize. They are: (i) Hargobind Khurana for Medicine in 1968, (ii) Subramanian Chandrasekhar for Physics in 1983, (iii) Venkatraman Ramkrishnan for Chemistry in 2009, (iv) Abhijit Vinayak Banerjee for Economics in 2019.

GANDHI PEACE PRIZE

- The government instituted this ₹ 1 crore prize on the lines of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1995.
- It is the highest Civilian International award by the Govt. of India.

MAN BOOKER INTERNATIONAL PRIZE 2021

- South African novelist and writer Damon Galgut was on November 3, 2021 awarded the prestigious Booker Prize for the year 2021 for his well-acclaimed novel 'The Promise', receiving £ 50,000. He is the third South African to win the prize, after J.M. Coetzee and Nadine Gordimer.

INDIRA GANDHI PRIZE FOR PEACE, DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

- The award was instituted in the memory of Mrs. Indira Gandhi to foster creative cooperation among nations of the world.

Highest Honours of Some Countries

Country	Highest Honour
India	Bharat Ratna
Pakistan	Nishan-e-Pakistan
Kuwait	Mubarak-Al-kabir Medal
Saudi Arabia	Shah Abdul Aziz Medal
Argentina	The Order of Sona Martin
Nicaragua	Augusto-Caesar Sandino Order
Vietnam	The Order of the Golden Star
Hungary	The Order of Banner
Britain	Member of British Empire, Victoria Cross
Japan	Order of Moulovenice Sun
Denmark	Order of Diana Brog
France	Legend of Honour
America	Presidential Medal of Freedom
Germany	Pore Lee Merit Iron Cross
The Netherlands	Netherlands Lion

SPORTS

OLYMPICS

- First of all these games were held by the Greeks in 776 B.C. on Mount Olympus in honour of the Greek God Zeus. In this way, the history of Olympic Games is about twenty eight hundred years old. These games continued to be held every four years until 394 A.D. when these games were stopped by a royal order of the emperor of Rome.
- The modern Olympic Games which started in Athens in 1896, are the result of the devotion and dedication of a French educator Baron Pierre de Coubertin and the first

Olympic meet in the modern series was held in 1896 in Athens, the Capital of Greece. Since then, they are being held every four years except for breaks during world wars.

- The Olympic flag is white in colour with five coloured rings, each ring symbolic of a continent. Summer as well as Winter Olympics are held in the same year.
- The 2020 Olympic Games was held at Tokyo in 2021.
- The official Olympic Motto is *Citius, Altius, Swifter, Higher, Stronger*. The Head Office of International Olympic Committee (IOC) is at Lausanne (Switzerland).

COMMONWEALTH GAMES

- The Commonwealth Games are held every four years, in the year in which Asian Games are held. All the Commonwealth Countries (former colonies of Britain) can take part in it.
- The first Commonwealth Games were held in 1930 at Hamilton (Canada).
- There are currently 54 members of the Commonwealth of Nations, and 71 teams participated in the games.

- The 2018 Commonwealth Games officially known as the XXI Commonwealth Games or Gold Coast 2018, which is held in Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia, between 4 to 15 April 2018.

ASIAN GAMES

- After the Second World War, most of the Asian Countries gained independence. On the lines of Olympic Games, Asian Games were planned every four years.
- India hosted the first Asian Games in 1951.

WORLD CUP CRICKET

- The first Cricket World Cup was organised in England in 1975. A separate women's Cricket World Cup has been held every 4 years since 1973.

List of Cricket World Cup

Year	Venue	Winner/Runner
1975	England	West Indies beat Australia
1979	England	West Indies beat England
1983	England	India beat West Indies
1987	India & Pakistan	Australia beat England
1992	Australia	Pakistan beat England
1996	India, Pakistan & Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka beat Australia
1999	England	Australia beat Pakistan
2003	South Africa	Australia beat India
2007	West Indies	Australia beat Sri Lanka
2011	India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh	India beat Sri Lanka
2015	Australia, New Zealand	Australia beat New Zealand
2019	England	England beat New Zealand
2023	India	(to be held)

HOCKEY WORLD CUP

- The first Hockey World Cup was organised in Barcelona (Spain) in 1971. Women's Hockey World Cup has been held since 1974.

FOOTBALL WORLD CUP

- The Football World Cup is organised by FIFA (Federation of International Football Association). The World Cup is called 'Jules Rimet Cup' named after the name of FIFA President Jules Rimet. The first Football World Cup was organised in Uruguay in 1930.
- In 1942 and 1946, the Football World Cup was not played due to World War II.
- Brazil is the only nation to have participated in every World Cup so far. The 2018 Football World Cup held in Russia. France on July 15, 2018 clinched their second FIFA World Cup title, beating Croatia 4-2 in the highest-scoring final since 1996.

IMPORTANT CUPS & TROPHIES**International**

- * American Cup : Yacht Racing
- * Ashes : Cricket
- * Davis Cup : Lawn Tennis

- * Derby : Horse Race
- * Grand National : Horse Strephe Chase Race
- * Jules Rimet Trophy : World Soccer Cup
- * King's Cup : Air Races
- * Merdeka Cup : Football
- * Swaythling Cup : Table Tennis (Men)
- * Ryder Cup : Golf
- * Thomas Cup : Badminton
- * U. Thant Cup : Tennis
- * Walker Cup : Golf
- * Wightman Cup : Lawn Tennis
- * Rothman's Trophy : Cricket
- * European Champions Cup : Football
- * Grand Prix : Table Tennis
- * Edgbaston Cup : Lawn Tennis
- * Grand Prix : Lawn Tennis

National

- * Agha Khan Cup : Hockey
- * Beighton Cup : Hockey
- * Bombay Gold Cup : Hockey
- * C.K. Naydu Trophy : Cricket
- * Deodhar Trophy : Cricket

* Duleep Trophy	: Cricket
* Durand Cup	: Football
* Dhyan Chand Trophy	: Hockey
* Dr. B.C. Roy Trophy	: Football (Junior)
* Ezra Cup	: Polo
* Guru Nanak Cup	: Hockey
* Holkar Trophy	: Bridge
* Irani Trophy	: Cricket
* Indira Gold Cup	: Hockey
* Murugappa Gold Cup	: Hockey
* Nehru Trophy	: Hockey
* Nixan Gold Cup	: Football
* Rani Jhansi Trophy	: Cricket
* Ranji Trophy	: Cricket
* Rangaswami Cup	: Hockey
* Ramanujan Trophy	: Table Tennis
* Rene Frank Trophy	: Hockey
* Rohinton Baria Trophy	: Cricket
* Rovers Cup	: Football
* Santosh Trophy	: Football
* Subroto Cup	: Football

SPORTS TERMS

- * **Badminton:** Mixed doubles; Deuce; Drop; Smash; Let; Foot work; Setting.
- * **Base Ball:** Pitcher; Put out; Strike; Home; Bunt.
- * **Billiards:** Cue; Jigger; Pot; Break; In Baulk; In Off; Cannons.
- * **Boxing:** Upper cut; Round; Punch; Bout; Knock down; Hitting below the belt; Ring.
- * **Bridge:** Finesse; Dummy; Revoke; Grand Slam; Little Slam; No Trump; Rubber.
- * **Chess:** Bishop, Gambit; Checkmate; Stalemate.
- * **Cricket:** L.B.W. (leg before wicket); Creases, Popping-creases; Stumped; Bye; Leg-Bye; Googly; Hat-trick; Maiden over; Drive; Bowling; Duck; Follow-on; No ball; Leg Break; Silly point; Cover point; Hit-wicket; Late-cut; Slip; Off-spinner; In-swing.
- * **Football:** Off Side; Block; Drop-kick; Penalty-kick (or goal kick); Corner-kick; Free-kick; Dribble; Thrown-in; Foul.
- * **Golf:** Boggy; Foursome; Stylic; Tee; Put; Hole; Niblic; Caddie; Links; The green; Bunker.
- * **Hockey:** Carried; Short Corner; Bully; Sticks; Off side; Roll in; Striking Circle; Under-cutting; Dribble.
- * **Horse racing:** Jockey; Punter.
- * **Polo:** Bunker; Chukker; Mallet.
- * **Tennis:** Back hand drive; Volley; Smash; Half-volley; Deuce; Service; Let; Grand Slam.

Stadiums and Places Associated with Sports

Name of Stadium	Sports	Place
Arun Jaitley Stadium	Cricket	Delhi
Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium	Athletics	Delhi
Shivajee Stadium	Hockey	Delhi
National Stadium	Hockey etc.	Delhi
Ambedkar Stadium	Football	Delhi
Brabourne Stadium	Cricket	Mumbai
Wankhede Stadium	Cricket	Mumbai
National Stadium	Hockey etc.	Mumbai
Eden Garden	Cricket	Kolkata
Green Park Stadium	Cricket	Kanpur
Keenan Stadium	Cricket	Jamshedpur
Nehru (Chepauk) Stadium	Cricket	Chennai
Barabati Stadium	Cricket	Cuttack
Lords, Oval, Leeds	Cricket	Britain
Hedingle Manchester	Cricket	Britain
Black Heath	Rugby	London
	Football	
Henley	Boat race	England
Wimbledon	Lawn Tennis	London
Wembley Stadium	Football	London
White City	Dog-race	England
Aintree	Horse-race	England
Tentbridge	Cricket	England
Patnee Martlake	Boat-race	England
Tibankham	Rugby	England
	Football	
Sandy Lodge	Golf	Scotland
Forest Hill	Tennis	New York
Brooklyn	Baseball	New York
Melbourne	Cricket	Australia

Name of Playing Compound of Different Games

Name of Compound	Related Sports
Court	Lawn Tennis, Badminton, Netball, Hand ball, Volleyball, Squash, Kho-Kho, Kabaddi
Diamond	Baseball
Ring	Boxing, Skating, Wrestling, Circus, Riding display
Course	Golf
Board	Table Tennis
Pool	Swimming
Alley	Bowling
Mat	Judo, Karate II
Arena	Horse Riding
Vellodrum	Cycling
Field	Polo, Football, Hockey
Track	Athletics
Pitch	Cricket, Rugby
Rink	Ice Hockey