

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

LATEST STUDY MATERIALS WITH KEY POINTS

THE UNIVERSE

SOLAR SYSTEM - STATISTICS

The solar system consists of the Sun and 9 planets revolving around it in different orbits. The statistics of the sun and the planets are given below :

SUN

Age	: About 5 Billion years
Distance	: 149.8 Million Kms
Diameter	: 1,38,400 Kms.
Photosphere temperature	: 5,770 K
Core temperature	: 150,000,000 K
Absolute visual magnitude	: 4.75
Rotation (as seen from the earth at the equator)	: 25.38 days
Rotation (near the poles)	: 33 days

The sun consists of 71% of Hydrogen, 26.5% Helium and 2.5% of other elements.

The rays of the Sun take about 8 minutes to reach the earth.

(4) MARS

Diameter	: 6,755.2 Kms.
Distance from the Sun	: 225.6 Million Kms.
Period of revolution	: 687 days
Period of rotation	: 24 hrs 37 mts. 22.663 sec.

(5) JUPITER

	: This is the largest planet in the solar system.
Diameter	: 141,968 Kms.
Distance from the Sun	: 772.8 Million Kms.
Period of revolution	: 11.9 years
Period of rotation	: 9 hrs 50 mts. 30 sec.

(6) SATURN

	: It was discovered by Galileo.
Diameter	: 119,296 Kms.
Distance from the Sun	: 1,417.6 Million Kms.
Period of revolution	: 29.5 years
Period of rotation	: 10 hrs 14 mts.

(7) URANUS

	: It is the planet nearest to the earth.
Diameter	: 52,096 Kms.
Distance from the Sun	: 2,852.8 Million Kms.
Period of revolution	: 84 years
Period of rotation	: 16 hrs 10 mts.

(8) NEPTUNE

Diameter	: 49,000 Kms.
Distance from the Sun	: 4,497 Million Kms.
Period of revolution	: 165 years
Period of rotation	: 18 hrs 26 mts.

(9) PLUTO

	: This is the coldest and smallest of all planets. It is also the most distant one.
Diameter	: 3,040 Kms.
Distance from the Sun	: 5,865.6 Million Kms.
Period of revolution	: 248 years
Period of rotation	: 6 days 9 hrs and 18 mts.

MOON

: Moon is earth's satellite. Its period of rotation and Period of Revolution are the same. i.e. 29 1/2 days.

PLANETS

(1) MERCURY

	: It is the planet nearest to the earth.
Average distance to the Sun	: 57.6 Million Kms.
Diameter	: 4,849.6 Kms.
Period of revolution	: 88 days
Period of rotation	: 58 days 15 hrs 30 mts. 34 sec.

(2) VENUS

	: It is also known as the Morning Star or the Evening Star. It is the brightest of all the planets.
Diameter	: 12,032 Kms.
Period of revolution	: 225 days
Period of rotation	: 243 days 14 mts.

(3) EARTH

Equatorial diameter	: 12,756 Kms.
Polar diameter	: 12,714 Kms.
Distance from the Sun	: 149,597,900 Kms.
Period of revolution	: 365 days 5 hrs, 48 mts, 45.51 sec.
Period of rotation	: 23 hrs 56 mts. 4.09 sec.

differ in date by a day (12 hours + 12 hours = 24 hours). To overcome the confusion that would otherwise arise, the International Date Line has been established. It runs along 180° E or W. Westward-bound vessels crossing the Date Line drop a day from the calendar, while those going eastward add a day by giving the same date to two consecutive days. Instead of changing the time exactly according to change in degrees at the rate of 4 minutes per degree, certain time zones have been established. All places in the same area or time zone or time belt, use what is called **Standard Time**. Thus we have the Greenwich Mean Time (G.M.T) and the Indian Standard Time (I.S.T). There are five time-belts in Canada and four in United States.

The Lithosphere:

The mass of the Earth is generally divided into three layers, namely, Crust, Mantle and Core. The **Lithosphere** is the name given to the outer Crust which is not more than 10 miles thick. It is made up of a great variety of rocks, soils, etc.

Rocks:

1. **Sedimentary Rocks:** These rocks are made up of deposits laid down on the floor of river beds, lakes and seas.

Examples: Sand and sandstone, clay, lime stone, chalk and carbonaceous rocks, such as lignite, coal and anthracite.

2. **Igneous Rocks:** These are primary rocks which are formed by cooling and solidification of molten lava. When such rocks are poured out on the surface they are known as **Volcanic rocks**, e.g. basalt. When the molten material solidifies at considerable depth, **plutonic rocks** are formed, e.g. granite.

3. **Metamorphic Rocks:** These rocks are formed as a result of alteration by extreme heat and or pressure of igneous or sedimentary rocks. *Example*, slate, gneiss, schist etc.

Soil:

The upper layers of rocks weather to form the soil. There are three distinct layers of soil. The uppermost layer forms the top soil. The second layer is called the subsoil. The third layer is made up of decomposing and much-broken rock, known as mantle- rock. The type of soil depends on a number of factors, namely, climatic conditions, the nature of the parent rock, relief, vegetation and the period over which it has been worked by man. Soils may be broadly classified as (a) Forest, (b) Grassland and (c) Desert types.

Mountains:

In past geological ages disturbances in the Earth's interior have caused crumpling and cracking of the crust. This has resulted in great upfolds forming **Fold-Mountains** which are mainly made up of folded strata of sedimentary rocks, e.g. the Alps, the Rockies, the Andes, and the Himalayas. The mountain structures worn down

by prolonged denudation are known as Residual Mountains, e.g. Highlands of Scotland and Scandinavia.

Denudation:

The process known as denudation or the wearing away of the land is continually going on. The chief causes of such erosion are (a) changes in temperature; (b) frost; (c) winds; (d) water, including rivers; (e) ice; and (f) the action of the sea. Steps to combat soil erosion include (i) terracing; (ii) contour ploughing; (iii) strip cropping (iv) planting shelter belts of trees; and (v) plugging the gullies by building small dams etc.

The Atmosphere:

The air is composed mainly of nitrogen (78%) and oxygen (21%) with small proportions of carbon dioxide, water vapour and rarer gases like argon and neon. Atmosphere is 200 miles thick, but nine-tenths of the air composing it is found within 12 miles, and half within 3½ miles of the earth's surface. We are concerned mainly with the lower layer of **troposphere**. The upper layers in the ascending order are **Stratosphere**, **Mesosphere** and **Ionosphere**. **Troposphere** extends to a distance of about ten kilometres. **Stratosphere** is a region extending from an altitude of about 11 Km to 50 Km above the earth. The upper part of stratosphere has plenty of ozone which protects us from the fatal effects of Sun's ultraviolet radiation. **Mesosphere** is the next layer extending from 50 to 80 Kms above the earth. It is a very cold region. **Ionosphere** extends from about 60 Kms upwards. It includes **Thermosphere** and **Exosphere** which marks the outer limits of the earth's atmosphere.

Wind is air in motion:

The chief cause of wind is difference in atmosphere pressure. One of the main reasons for differences in pressure is unequal heating of the air. From the high pressure belts the air flows outwards to the regions of low pressure. Owing to the rotation of the earth, the winds do not blow due north and south, but are deflected. In this deflection they obey **Ferrel's Law** which states, "Any moving body on the earth surface including a current of air, tends to be deflected, the deflection being to the right in the northern hemisphere and to the left in southern hemisphere." **Land and seabreezes** are local winds caused by the unequal heating of land and water. During the day the land becomes very much hotter than the sea, with the result that there is marked low pressure over the land. Thus the air over the sea flows rapidly loses heat, but the sea remains warm for a longer time. Thus at night, heavy cool air blows from the land to take the place of warm air rising over the sea. The **monsoon** or seasonal winds may be regarded as land and sea breezes on a large scale, in which the time-frame is a year instead of a day. This phenomenon is to be found in south-east Asia, but is especially marked in the subcontinent of India. A cyclone is a portion of the atmosphere in which the pressure is lowest in the centre. The winds blow inwards in anti-clockwise direction in the Northern Hemisphere. In the

DAM		HARBOUR	
Longest Dam (India)	Hirakud Dam on the river Mahanadi - Orissa	Largest Natural Harbour (India)	Visakhapatnam
Highest Dam (World)	The Grande (Switzerland)	HILL STATION	
Highest Straight	Bhakra Nangal on river Sutlej	Highest Hill Station (India)	Gulmarg (Kashmir)
DAY		HOTEL	
Longest Day	June 21 (in Northern Hemisphere)	Biggest Hotel (India)	Oberoi-Sheraton (Mumbai)
Shortest Day	December 22 (in Northern Hemisphere)	ISLAND	
		Largest Island	Greenland
		Largest Group of Islands	Malaya Archipelago
DELTA		LAKE	
Largest Delta	(Sunderbans). The World's largest delta is that created by the Ganges and Brahma putra in Bangladesh and West Bengal, India. It covers an area of 30,000 sq. miles.	Largest Salt Water Lake	Caspian Sea
		Largest Fresh Water Lake	Superior (31,200 sq.miles) (India)
		Deepest Lake	Lake Baikal (Siberia) 701 mts
		Highest Lake	Titicaca (Bolivia) 3854 metres above sea level.
		Largest Lake (India)	Wular Lake
DESERT		LIBRARY	
Largest Desert (World)	Sahara (Africa)	Largest Library (World)	United States Library of Congress (Washington)
Coldest Desert	Antarctica		The Lenin State Library (Moscow-Russia)
Largest Desert (India)	The Thar Desert (Rajasthan)	LIGHT HOUSE	
Largest Desert in Asia	Gobi (Mongolia)	Largest Light House (World)	Bishop Rock (England)
DOME		MEMORIAL	
Largest and Biggest (India)	Go. Gumbaz	MINES	
Largest Dome (World)	'Astrodome' in Houston, Texas (USA) outside diameter 216 metres and inside 196 metres.	Most Beautiful Memorial	Taj Mahal (Agra)
EPIC		MOUNTAINS	
Longest Epic	Mahabharatha	Longest Mountain Range (World)	Mt. Andes (South America) (8,800 km)
FILLING STATION		Highest Peak (World)	Everest Nepal
Highest Filling Station	Petrol pump at Leh at 3658 m. It is operated by Indian Oil Corporation.	Highest Peak (India)	Godwin Austen Himalayas
		Highest Mountain Range	Anaimudi (2,720 m)
		Highest Peak (South India)	Anaimalai
FOREST		MOSQUE, CATHEDRAL, TEMPLE	
Largest Forest (India)	Assam	Biggest Mosque (India)	Jama Masjid (Delhi)
GATEWAY		Largest Mosque	Umayyad Mosque 157 m × 97 m covering an area of 3.76 acres. Damascus, Syria.
GULF			
Largest Gulf	Gulf of Mexico		

INDIAN POLITY

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

The election to the Constituent Assembly based on the Cabinet Mission's Plan took place in July 1946. The seats in each Province were distributed among the three main communities, Muslims, Sikh and General, in proportion to their respective populations. The election was indirect in that members of each community in the Provincial Assemblies elected their own representatives by the method of proportional representation with single transferable vote. The Constituent Assembly first met on 9th December 1946, without the members of the Muslim League. Dr. Rajendra Prasad was elected President and various committees were appointed to draft the different parts of the Constitution. As a result of the Partition and the Indian Independence Act of 1947, which provided for separate Constituent Assemblies for India and Pakistan, separate Constituent Assembly was set up for Pakistan. The Constituent Assembly of India reassembled on 14 August 1947, as the Sovereign Constituent Assembly for the Dominion of India. The membership of the Assembly was reduced to 299 when it met again on 31 October 1947 with some members ceasing to be so after their Provinces opted to join Pakistan.

ACCEPTANCE

The Constituent Assembly appointed a Drafting Committee on 29 August 1947 under the Chairmanship of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. The members included N. Gopalaswamy Aiyangar, Alladi Krishnaswamy Aiyar, K.M. Munshi, Mohammad Sadullah, B.L. Mitter and Dr. D.P. Khaitan. The last two were replaced by N. Madhava Rao and T.T. Krishnamachari respectively. A draft Constitution of India was published in February 1948. The Assembly met in November 1948 to consider the draft clause by clause. The second reading was completed by 17 October 1949. On 14 November the Assembly sat for the third reading and finished it on 26 November 1949. On that date the constitution received the signature of the President of the Assembly, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, and was declared as passed. The Provisions relating to citizenship, elections, provisional Parliament, etc. came into effect immediately. i.e. from 26 November 1949.

The rest of the Constitution came into force on 26 January 1950 the date which is referred to in the Constitution as the date of its commencement. The date was specifically chosen for the inauguration of the Indian Republic as it was on 26 January 1930 that the historic call for "Purna Swaraj" as a goal was passed at the Lahore Session of the Congress. The final session of the Constituent Assembly was held on 24 January 1950 when it unanimously elected Dr. Rajendra Prasad as the First President of the Republic of India under the new Constitution.

CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

The Constitution of a country is a very important document. No Government can be run without a clear set of laws. This set of laws is commonly known as **Constitution**.

Our Constitution was framed by an elected body called "*The Constituent Assembly*". This assembly started its work on 9 December 1946 in the Central Hall of our Parliament House in New Delhi. Dr. Rajendra Prasad, who was elected the first President of India in 1952, was the Chairman of the Constituent Assembly. Among other important members of the assembly were Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherji, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Dr. K.M. Munshi, Dr. S. Radha Krishnan, Alladi Krishnaswami, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu and Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was the Chairman of the Drafting Committee which prepared the draft of the Constitution.

The Drafting Committee studied the Constitution of many Countries such as U.K., U.S.A., France, U.S.S.R., France and Switzerland. The draft was discussed and debated in detail by the Assembly. The Constitution was finally signed by the members on 26 November, 1949. The Constitution came into force on 26th January 1950. On this day India became a "Sovereign Democratic Republic".

SALIENT FEATURES

Preamble: Our Constitution has a Preamble or a statement of the Constitution. The Preamble opens with the words, "*We the People of India*". The people resolve to secure to all the citizens of India Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity.

SOVEREIGN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

The most important feature of our Constitution is that the supreme political power belongs to the people. The people drafted the constitution through their representatives. It is the people of India who govern the country through their elected representatives. The people are the real masters with whom the ultimate authority rests.

India is a **Sovereign Democratic Republic**. It is Sovereign because it is supreme and free in all matters governing the country. No outside nation can interfere with its affairs. It is Democratic because the people govern the country through their elected representatives. It is a Republic because the Head of the State, The President of India, is elected for a limited period of five years. He may seek re-election on the expiry of his term.

Parliament

Parliament or the Central Legislature consists of the President and the two Houses :

- (i) The Rajya Sabha (Council of State) and
- (ii) the Lok Sabha (House of the People). The President is an integral part of Parliament and all bills passed by Parliament must have his assent before they become law. Parliament is to meet at least twice a year and at an interval of not more than six months between one session and another. The maximum strength of the two Houses is fixed at 545 for the Lok Sabha (not more than 525 from the States and 20 from the Union Territories) and 250 (12 nominated) for the Rajya Sabha.

Qualifications to become a member of Parliament :

- (1) A person should be a citizen of India.
- (2) He should not be less than 30 years of age in order to fill a seat in Rajya Sabha and not less than 25 years of age to fill a seat in the Lok Sabha.
- (3) He should possess such other qualifications as may be prescribed under any law made by Parliament. He is also required to make and subscribe an oath or affirmation to bear the true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India. A person is disqualified both for being chosen as, and for being, a member of Parliament if he :
 - (i) holds an office of profit under any Government in India, other than an office declared by Parliament by law not to disqualify its holder,
 - (ii) is of unsound mind,
 - (iii) is an undischarged insolvent,
 - (iv) has voluntarily acquired the citizenship of a foreign State or
 - (v) is disqualified by or under any law made by Parliament.

Powers and Functions of Parliament : Parliament has vast legislative powers :

- (1) It can make laws on the subjects contained in the Union and Concurrent Lists.
- (2) In certain cases, Parliament can also make laws on the subjects mentioned in the State List.
- (3) It has vast financial powers. It passes the budget and authorises all the income and expenditure.
- (4) It exercises control over the executive.
- (5) The Lok Sabha or the House of the People has also a share in the election of the President and the Vice-President.

Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha

Rajya Sabha (Council of State) : The elected members are representatives of the States and the nominated members are eminent men in art, literature, science and

social services etc. The Rajya Sabha is a permanent body, i.e., it is not subject to dissolution. One third of its members retire after every two years. The elections to the Rajya Sabha are indirect. The allotted quota of every State is elected by the elected members of the Legislative Assembly of that State. The election is conducted in accordance with the system of proportional representation by a single transferable vote. The Vice-President is the ex-officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.

Lok Sabha (House of the People) : The number of seats to each State is allotted in such a way that the ratio between the number and the population of the State is, as far as practicable, the same for all States. Each member represents not less than 500,000 citizens. The term ordinarily does not exceed 5 years.

Anglo-Indians : The President may, if he is of the opinion that the Anglo-Indian community is not adequately represented in the Lok Sabha, nominate not more than two members of that community to the House of People (Lok Sabha). The Lok Sabha Secretariat comes under the direct supervision of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha. The Secretary General of the Lok Sabha, who is chief of the Secretariat, is appointed by the President of India as per Article 98 of the Constitution. Except in the case of Money Bills, the Constitution provides equality of status of the two Houses. The Speaker is elected by members of the Lok Sabha for a period of 5 years. The term of the Lok Sabha can be extended for one year at a time. The Lok Sabha can be dissolved before the expiry of its normal term of five years by the President.

Speaker

The House of the People elects a Speaker and a Deputy Speaker from among its members. The principal function of the Speaker is to preside over the meetings of the House in addition to other duties in connection with the internal affairs of the House of the People.

Money Bill :

A Money Bill is not introduced in the Rajya Sabha which has no power over Money Bills. It can originate only in the Lok Sabha. In financial matters, the Lok Sabha is more powerful than the Rajya Sabha. After a Money Bill has been passed by the Lok Sabha, it is to be sent to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations. The Rajya Sabha cannot reject or amend a Money Bill by virtue of its own powers. If the Rajya Sabha does not return the Bill within fourteen days, it shall be deemed to have been passed by both Houses.

Elections :

Election held to elect members of Parliament and State Legislative Assemblies as also to the office of the President and Vice-President is termed as "General

SCHEDULES TO THE CONSTITUTION

Constitution of India contains Ten Schedules, which are an integral part of the Constitution. A brief summary is given below:

First Schedule : It contains the list of the States and the Union Territories comprising the Indian Union.

2nd Schedule : It has Five Parts.

Part (a) fixes the remuneration and emoluments payable to the President of India and Governors of the States.

Part (b) was deleted from the Constitution (7th Amendment) Act 1956)

Part (c) contains provisions as of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the House of people, Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the council of States and the Speaker of the Legislative Assemblies and Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Legislative Councils.

Part (d) fixes the emoluments of the Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts.

Part (e) contains provision of the Comptroller and Auditor - General of India.

3rd Schedule : It contains the allocation of seats of each States and Union Territories in the Council of States.

4th Schedule : It provides for the administration and control of scheduled areas. It can be amended by a simple majority of the Parliament.

6th Schedule : It provides for the administration of tribal areas in Assam, Meghalaya, and Mizoram and goes into details of the administration in these areas. It can be amended by a simple majority of the Parliament.

7th Schedule : It gives the allocation of powers and functions between the Union & the States. It contains three lists: (1) Union list of 97 subjects over which the Union government has an exclusive authority, (2) State list of 66 subjects over which States have exclusive authority and (3) Concurrent list of 47 subjects over which the Union and the States have concurrent powers.

8th Schedule : It contains a list of eighteen languages of India recognised in the Constitution. They are :

- | | | |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| (1) Assamese | (7) Konkani | (13) Punjabi |
| (2) Bengali | (8) Malayalam | (14) Sanskrit |
| (3) Gujarati | (9) Manipuri | (15) Sindhi |
| (4) Hindi | (10) Marati | (16) Tamil |
| (5) Kannada | (11) Nepali | (17) Telugu |
| (6) Kashmiri | (12) Oriya | (18) Urdu. |

9th Schedule : It was added by the Constitution 1st Amendment Act 1951. It contains Acts and Orders relating to Land tenure, Land tax, Railways, Industries, etc., possessed by the Union government and State governments (including Jammu & Kashmir), which are beyond the jurisdiction of the Civil Courts.

Tenth Schedule : (Fifty Second Amendments) Act 1985. It contains anti-defection Acts.

EMOLUMENTS OF VVIPs

Second Schedule	Salary per month
President	Rs.50,000(20,000)
Vice-President	Rs.40,000(14,500)
State Governor	Rs.36,000(11,000)
Member of the Parliaments	Rs.15,000(14,000)
Chief Justice of Supreme Court	Rs.33,000(10,000)
Judges of the Supreme Court	Rs.30,000(9000)
Chief Justice of State High Court	Rs.30,000(9000)
Judges of the High Court	Rs.26,000(8000)

CONSTITUTION REVIEW PANEL

A 11-member Constitution Review Commission chaired by Mr. Justice M.N. Venkatachaliah was set up by the government in February 13, 2000. A gazette notification formally setting up the Commission was issued on February 23, 2000.

The Commission will suggest changes, if any, within the framework of parliamentary democracy, by submitting a report within a year ending on February 21, 2001.

On 14-1-2001 the Union Cabinet formally decided to extend the term by eight months, upto October 31, 2001. The Commission set up with a mandate to examine how best the Constitution could respond to the changing needs of the country in the limelight of the experience for the past 50 years.

The other 10 members of the Commission are :

- Mr. Justice B.P. Jeewan Reddy, Chairman, Law Commission and former Supreme Court Judge.
- Mr. Justice R.S. Sarkaria, former Supreme Court Judge and Chairperson, Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State relations.
- Mr. Justice Kandapalli Punmia, Former Andhra High Court Judge
- Mr. Soli Sorabjee, Attorney-General
- Mr. Parasaran, former Attorney-General
- Mr. P.A. Sangma, former Speaker, Lok Sabha,
- Mr. Subhash Kashyap, former Secretary General, Lok Sabha
- Mr. C.R. Irani, Chief Editor, The Statesman
- Mr. Abid Hussain, former Indian Ambassador to the United States
- Mrs. Sumitra Kulkarni, former M.P.

The Constitution (Seventy-third Amendment) Act,

1993 : Article 40 of the Constitution which enshrines one of the Directive Principles of the State Policy lays down that the state shall take steps to organise village 'Panchayats' and endow them with such powers and authorities as may be necessary to enable them to function as a unit of self-government.

The Constitution (Seventy-fourth Amendment) Act,

1993 : A new part IX-A relating to the Municipalities has been incorporated in the Constitution to provide, among other things, constitution of three types of Municipalities, i.e., 'Nagar Panchayats' for areas in transition from a rural area to urban area, Municipal Councils for smaller urban area, and 'Municipal Corporations' for larger urban areas.

The Constitution (Seventy-eighth Amendment) Act,

1995 : Article 31B of the Constitution confers on the enactment included in the Ninth Schedule to the Constitution, immunity from legal challenge of the ground that it violates the fundamental rights enshrined in Part III of the Constitution. The Schedule consists of list of laws enacted by the central governments and various state governments which, *inter alia*, affect rights and interest in property including land.

The Constitution (79th Amendment Act) 2000 : It extends reservation to SCs & STs in Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies for 10 years beyond 2000.

The Eightieth Amendment, 2000 : It relates to the revenue sharing between the Centre and the States whereby States' over-all share was increased to 29% as per the Tenth Finance Commission's recommendation.

The Eighty First Amendment, 2000 : It relates to carrying forward backlog vacancies of SCs and STs.

The Eighty Second Amendment, 2000 : It relates to relaxation in qualifying marks and reservation of posts in super speciality course in Medical and Engg. etc., for SCs and STs.

The Eighty Third Amendment, 2000 : It exempts Arunachal Pradesh from reserving seats for scheduled castes in Panchayati Raj institutions as there are no Scheduled Castes.

The Eighty Fourth Amendment, 2000 : It relates to the creation of new states of Chhattisgarh, Uttaranchal and Jharkhand.

The Eighty Fifth Amendment, 2000 : It provides for the benefit of reservation in promotions in government service to the members of Scheduled Castes(SC)/ Scheduled Tribes (ST).

The Eighty Ninth Amendment, 2000 : The bill passed by Parliament on May, 2000, provides for the transfer of 25% share of net tax proceeds to States for a five-year period and seeks to bring several Central taxes and duties like Corporation Tax and Customs Duty at par with personal income-tax for the purpose of sharing with the States.

The Ninety Third Amendment, 2001 : Union Cabinet approved the Constitution (93rd Amendment) Bill, 2001 on 10th September 2001. It seeks to provide free and compulsory education for the children aged 6 to 14 across the country.

The Ninety Sixth Amendment, 2003 : The Lok Sabha unanimously approved it on 6th May 2003. It seeks to provide for readjustment of electoral constituencies, including those reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the basis of the population census for the year 2001 without affecting the number of seats allocated to States in the Legislative bodies.

OFFICIAL BOOKS AND PAPERS

Blue Book	: Official report of the Government of U.K.
White Paper	: Short Phamplet giving authoritative recital of facts given by the Government.
Red Book	: Book banished in a country.
Green Book	: Official Publications of Italy and Iran.
Grey Book	: Official Publications of Japan and Belgium.
Orange Book	: Official Publications of Netherlands.
White Book	: Official Publications of Germany, China and Portugal.
Yellow Book	: Official Publications of France.

Dharma was peace and non-violence. Dharma Mahamatras were appointed to preach Dharma. The effects of the Kalinga war are described on rock edicts. He stressed the principles of Ahimsa and Toleration through these edicts. Ashoka believed in paternal kingship, "*All men are my children*" he said, and felt that he should care of them in the same way.

KUSHAN DYNASTY :

The Kushanas are important rulers of India and among them is Kanishka. The coins of the Kanishka kings help us to know the history of this dynasty. Kanishka is undoubtedly the most striking figure among the Kushana Kings of India. "A great conqueror and a patron of Buddhism, he combined in himself the military ability of Chandra Gupta Maurya and the religious zeal of Ashoka". Kanishka conquered and annexed Kashmir to his empire. Kanishka used to spend his summer time in Kashmir. *Kanishkapura*, a city after the name of Kanishka was also founded by him in Kashmir. After his conversion to Buddhism, Kanishka channelized his indefatigable energies to the propagation of Buddhism. The crowning service which he rendered to Buddhism was convened at Jalandhara according to certain authorities, while others hold the view that it met at Kashmir. The chief aim of the council was the compilation of the doctrines of Buddhism and the writing of commentaries on them. According to *Kalhana's Rajatarangini*, Kanishka founded various monasteries and stupas. He also sent missions abroad to propagate Buddhism. Kanishka's reign also witnessed a remarkable change in the fundamental doctrines of Buddhism. Buddhist creed was now divided into two big camps - *Hinayana* and *Mahayana*. The latter was accepted as the State religion by the Kushanas. During Kushana period, two schools of art flourished in India called *Gandhara School of Art* and *Mathura School of Art*. Gandhara Art remained in existence from the first century B.C. to fifth century A.D. Gandhara Art was the combination of the Indian and Greek styles of sculpture. Geographically this region was so situated that it lay exposed to all sorts of foreign contacts and influences - Persian, Greek, Roman, Saka and Kushana. In the Gandhara art sculptures representing the stories and legends of Lord Buddha's Life were made, as they were in great demand. These sculptures were produced almost in a mechanical manner. Kanishka was succeeded by his younger son Huvishka who was also a follower of Buddhism. Huvishka was succeeded by his son Vasudeva who was a weak ruler. He believed in Saivism. After him, the Kushana dynasty practically came to an end.

GUPTA DYNASTY :

Chandra Gupta I founded the powerful kingdom and started the Gupta Era. The Gupta rule was the *Golden period of the Hindus*. *Samudra Gupta*, son of Chandra Gupta - I was the most powerful and ablest of the Hindu Kings, a great military genius, scholar, poet

and musician; known as the "Indian Napoleon" on account of his great conquests. He had very cordial relations with Ceylon (now Sri Lanka), also performed *Asvamedha Yajna* (horse sacrifice). His achievements are inscribed in Allahabad Prasasti. *Chandra Gupta II* or *Vikramaditya* was the second great king of Gupta dynasty. *Fahien*, the first Chinese pilgrim visited his kingdom. Art and literature flourished. *Kalidasa* - poet and dramatist; known as the "*Shakespeare of India*". and "*Prince of Indian Poets*" lived during his period. *Aryabhatta*, *Varahimihira* and *Brahma Gupta* - the greatest mathematicians and astronomers of their time; *Kumarila Bhatta* and *Shankaracharya* - the great preachers of Hinduism and *Dhanwantri*, *Nagarjuna* - great physicians. The nine scholars who adorned the court of Gupta were called the *Navratnas*. The Ajanta cave paintings mostly belong to the period of Gupta. The paintings of Ajanta depict stories of the *Jatakas*. *Kumara Gupta* founded the *Nalanda University*. The Delhi Iron Pillar belonging to the Gupta period still remains rustless.

VARDHANA DYNASTY :

Harsha Vardhana was the king of Thaneshwar and established a strong empire. He was the last great Hindu king of Northern India. *Hieun-Tsang*, a Chinese pilgrim visited *Harsha Vardhana* - a biography of Harsha was written by *Banabhatta*. Kanauj became the important city of Northern India under Harsha. Bana was the court poet of Harsha.

CHALUKYA DYNASTY :

Pulakesin II was the most powerful ruler of Chalukya dynasty in the Deccan. He came into conflict with both Harsha in the North and the Pallavas in the South. In the Battle of Narmada, Harsha was defeated by Pulakesin II. Finally, Pulakesin II was defeated and killed in battle with the Pallavas.

PALLAVA DYNASTY :

Pallava dynasty was great from cultural as well as political point of view. *Sivaskanda Varman* was the first great ruler of Pallava dynasty. *Narasimha Varman I* was regarded as the greatest king of the Pallava dynasty. He defeated Pulakesin II, the Chalukya ruler at *Vatapi* and so he was called "*Vatapi Kondan*". He was also a poet and *Kudumianmalai inscriptions* reveal his mastery in music. During this period *Hieun-Tsang* visited Kanchi. *Narsimha Varman II* got erected a beautiful temple of *Kailasnath* near Kanchi and one at *Mahabalipuram*. He sent an ambassador to China. *Dandin* lived in his period. *Nandi Varman II* got erected the *Mukteswar* temple at Kanchi. He also performed the famous horse ceremony called "*Asvamedha*".

CHOLA DYNASTY :

The Chola dynasty was an ancient Tamil Kingdom on the lower coast of India along the banks of the river *Cauvery*. The real founder of the Chola dynasty of

Symptoms :

1. Occurrence of fever and skin eruptions.
2. After 3-4 weeks of infection, the primary sore or pimple appears on external genitals (the penis in male and labia minora and majora in female) which gradually becomes big and hard and later on becomes more prominent.
3. Enlargement of lymph nodes in groin takes place.
4. After 2-3 months, white shiny patches appear inside the mouth.
5. Eruption appears on the skin particularly on face, palms, soles and scalp.
6. Destructive changes in the internal organs of the body take place even after many years.
7. Cardio vascular system may be badly affected.
8. The infection can pass from infected pregnant mother to developing foetus through placenta and may result in the premature death of the foetus.

Gonorrhoea**Mode of spread :**

1. through intercourse with infected man
2. through indirect way like cloths, bedding.

Symptoms :

1. urine passes out with difficulty and there is an urge for frequent urination.
2. infection may pass into foetus through placenta if the infected female is pregnant.
3. eruptions appear on the skin. Other common diseases caused by bacteria are: Plague, Cholera, Pneumonia etc.

C. Diseases caused by Protozoa :**Amoebic dysentery or Amoebiasis****Mode of spread :**

1. indirectly through flies which may pollute human food with cysts.
2. through contaminated water, vegetables, fruits and other food stuffs.

Symptoms:

1. frequent loose stools or diarrhoea.
2. the blood stained mucous passes along with stool.

Prevention and Control:

1. Proper disposal of faecal matter of the patient.
2. Vegetables and fruits when used raw, should be thoroughly washed preferably with potassium permanganate.

Malaria : Plasmodium**Mode of spread :**

By the bite of an infected female anopheles mosquito which acts as a carrier.

Symptoms :

1. sudden onset of fever and sensation of extreme cold.
2. signs of shivering and intense headache also follow.
3. fall in temperature is accompanied by profuse sweating.
4. the symptoms are repeated after every fixed hours depending upon the species of Plasmodium.

Prevention and control :

1. Destruction of breeding places (stagnated water) of mosquito by spreading an oil film on the water.
2. Use of mosquito nets.
3. Use of mosquito repellents like odomos.
4. Spraying of D.D.T. or malathion in residential areas and other places.
5. Use of various drugs like Quinine, Atebrine, Isopenta-quine is quite effective in control of malaria.
6. By fumigation i.e., certain chemicals are burnt so as to produce fumes that either kill mosquitoes or drive them away from their dwelling places.

D. Diseases caused by Fungi in worm:**Mode of spread**

Ringworm or foot spreads on the skin peripherally and heals centrally and the pathogen gains entry through foot if the person moves bare-footed.

Symptoms:

1. the early lesion which appears on body is ring like-with a scaly border.
2. in case if the ringworm appears on nail, the free edges of nails become grey or brown, rough, dull and sometimes nails are shed.

Prevention and control :

1. Personal hygiene is the best method of prevention of disease.
2. The infected body parts should be washed with dilute potassium permanganate and kept clean.

NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

These diseases do not spread by contact with the diseased person or any other agency.

1. **Coronary heart disease :** The blood is supplied to the heart muscles by coronary arteries. If these arteries become hardened and narrowed due to deposition of fatty materials, the heart does not receive enough amount of blood and as a result the person feels severe pain in the chest. Sometimes the blood vessels (arteries) may rupture or a clot may be formed in them. This stops the supply of blood to heart and the patient has a heart attack which is also called as coronary thrombosis.

Elephant: Found in Africa and India. It is the largest existing quadruped. Both males and females have large ivory tusk of considerable commercial value. The Indian elephant is domesticated and can carry up to 2,000 lbs. on long journeys maintaining a pace of about 6 km per hour.

Emu: Running bird of Australia. It is the largest of living birds after the Ostrich.

Giraffe : Found in Africa and South Sahara except in the Congo forests. It is the tallest of existing animals.

llama: A dwarf camel-like animal found in South America. It has no hump, but has a long neck and is used as a beast of burden.

Kangaroo: Is a pouched (Marsupial) mammal of Australia. It can reach a height of over 6 ft. It is the national animal of Australia.

Kiwi: Flightless bird, found in New Zealand, now very rare. It is little larger than a domestic hen and lays astonishingly large eggs for their size. Its feathers are hair-like and it has rudimentary wings concealed by the plumage.

Koala: Animal found in Australia.

Ladybird: It is an insect usually of a red or yellow colour with small coloured or black spots.

Lion: Among the big cats, the lions live in open grass-land, its tawny coat blending with the dry bush. It is lazy in habit, Gir forest is familiar in India.

Mustang: Animal found in American prairies

Nightingale: A singing bird found in India.

Octopus: A genus of marine mollusc with eight tentacles that bear suckers.

Ostrich : Largest living bird now found only on the sandy plains of Africa and parts of South West Asia. The male has beautiful white plumes on wings and tails. The wings are useless for flight, but the birds have a fleetness of foot exceeding that of the swiftest horse.

Oyster: is a bivalve molluscs which is eaten as a delicacy, the pearl oyster may grow a pearl under its shell. This is due to an irritation probably a tiny spect of sand, which the oyster covers with mother-of-pearl.

Penguin: is a genus of large birds with small wings and webbed feet. They exist in enormous numbers in the Southern Ocean and Antarctica Sea. They are facile swimmers, and live on fish.

Plover: Bird, common in all continents except Africa and South America.

Puma: A carnivorous quadruped of North America. It is called "American Lion". It is smaller than lion.

Reindeer: A genus of deer horned in both sexes; Siberia.

Rhinoceros: Found in swamps of Assam and Sunderbans; South-East Asia; Africa.

Seal: fish found in Northern Russia.

Sea Lions: One of the families of Seal found in the Pacific.

Shark: A large and powerful ocean fish, mostly found in tropical seas. Oil is obtained from its liver.

Swifts: are birds of the air with extraordinary ability and speed in flight. The world's tiniest humming birds of tropical America. They dart about with dazzling speed, hovering moving up & down sideways and even backwards.

Tiger: India is the home land of Tiger which ranges across the Far East to the Indonesia. National animal of India its stripes help to blend with the tall grass and bamboo thickets in which it hides.

Trout: a fresh water fish of the Salmonidae family; found in Kashmir.

Walrus: A very large marine mammal related to the Seals; Arctic Sea.

Whales: The magnificent blue Whale is the greatest animal on earth, reaching a length of 30 m and weighing upto 18,000 kilograms. No other animal has reached this. Although a mammal, the Whale looks fish-like only because it lives in water and has a streamlined body.

Yak: A curious long-haired ox, found in Tibet.

Yeti: Or the abominable snow-man of the high Himalayas is variously being from 6 to 12 ft. tall half- Gorilla-like, with shaggy body and hairless face. His foot-prints have been seen and photographed many times.

Zebra: African quadruped of whitish-grey colour with regular black stripes.

G.K. POWER

WHO's WHO CURRENT AFFAIRS G.K. DIARY

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National Biological Laboratory (in Planning) :
Palampur,
Kangra Dist. (Himachal Pradesh).

National Botanical Research Institute : **Lucknow, (U.P.)**

National Chemical Laboratory : **Pune, (Maharashtra).**

National Environmental Engineering Institute :
Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh).

National Institute of Oceanography : **Panaji (Goa).**

National Metallurgical Laboratory : **Jamshedpur**
(Bihar).

National Physical Laboratory : **New Delhi (Delhi).**

Pulsars Research Laboratory : **New Delhi (Delhi).**

Regional Research Laboratory : **Bhuvaneshwar**
(Cuttack), Jorhant (Assam), Jammu and Kashmir and
Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh).

Structural Engineering Research Centre : **Roorkee**
(U.P.) and Chennai.

Visveswarayya Industrial and Technological Museum:
Bangalore, (Karnataka).

NUCLEAR RESEARCH AND ATOMIC ENERGY

Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (Formerly the Atomic
Energy Establishment) : **Trombay near Mumbai**
(Maharashtra).

Centre for Advanced Technology (CAT) : **Indore.**

High Altitude research Laboratory : **Gulmarg**
(Kashmir)

Indian Cancer Research Centre : **Mumbai.**

Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research : **Kalpakkam.**

Physical Research Laboratory : **Ahmedabad (Gujarat).**

Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics : **Kolkata (West Bengal)**

Seismic Research Centre : **Gaurividanur near**
Bangalore (Karnataka).

Tata Institute of Fundamental Research : **Mumbai**
(Maharashtra)

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INSTITUTES

Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Limited : **Kolkata, (West**
Bengal).

Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany : **Lucknow**
(Uttar Pradesh)

Bose Research Institute : **Kolkata (W.Bengal).**

Central Arid Zoo Research Institute : **Jodhpur**
(Rajasthan).

Central Coconut Research Institute : **Kaserkode (Kerala)**

Central Glass and Ceramic Research Station : **New**
Delhi

Central Inland Fisheries Research Station : **Barrackpore**
(W.Bengal)

Central Institute of Fisheries Technology : **Ernakulam**
(Kerala).

Central Jute Technological Research Institute : **Kolkata**
(W.Bengal).

Central Marine Research Station : **Chennai (Tamil**
Nadu).

Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute :
Durgapur (West Bengal).

Central Mining Research Station : **Dhanbad (Bihar).**

Central Research Laboratory : **Chennai**
(Tamil Nadu)

Central State Fair : **Suragarh (Rajasthan).**

Central Sugar Research Station : **Rajamundry (Andhra**
Pradesh).

Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology : **Hyderabad**

Council of Scientific and Industrial Research Institute:
New Delhi.

Fluid Control Research Institute : **Kanjikode (Kerala).**

Forest Research Institute : **Dehra Dun (Uttar Pradesh)**

Indian Institute of Agricultural Research Institute :
New Delhi.

Indian Institute of Science : **Bangalore.**

Indian Institute of Sugar Technology : **Kanpur, (U.P.).**

Indian Lac Research Institute : **Ranchi (Bihar).**

Indian Space Research Organisation : **Bangalore**
(Karnataka)

Institute of Microbial Technology : **Hyderabad.**

National Dairy Research Institute : **Karnal (Haryana).**

National Environmental Engineering Institute : **Nagpur.**

National Sugar Research Institute : **Kanpur (U.P.)**

MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTES

All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health :
Kolkata (W.Bengal).

All India Institute of Medical Science : **New Delhi**
(Delhi).

All India Malaria Institute : **Delhi.**

Central Research Institute : **Kasauli (Himachal**
Pradesh).

Haftkine Institute : **Mumbai.**

Indian Institute of Experimental Medicine : **Kolkata**
(W.Bengal)

Indian Veterinary Research Institute : **Mukteshwar and**
Izatnagar (Gujarat).

National Institute of Communicable Disease : **Delhi.**

Nutrition Research Laboratory : **Coonoor (Tamil**
Nadu)

Tuberculosis Institute : **Delhi.**

First Indian girl to win the : Joshna Chinappa (17 yrs)
British Junior Squash title

First Indian Muslim : Aneesha Mirza
Woman Mayor (Ahmedabad)

First Test Tube Baby : Louise Joy Brown

First Place where atom : Hiroshima
bomb was dropped

First man to reach : Robert Peary
North Pole

First man to climb : Sherpa Sungau (Nepal)
Mount Everest

First man to walk in space : Alexi Leonov (USSR)

First Governor General : Mohammed Ali Jinnah
of Pakistan

First oldest man to scale : Mario Curris
Mount Everest

First Commander-in-Chief : General Roy Bucher
of Free India

First Emperor of : Babar
Moghul Dynasty

First Field Marshal : S.H.F.J. Manekshaw
of India

First Indian ICS Officer : Satyendra nath Tagore

First Indian Member : Sir S.P. Sinha
of Viceroy's Executive
Council

First man to climb : Phu Dorjee
Mount Everest without Oxygen

First Tolkie Film : Alam Ara (1931)

First Test Tube Baby : Indira
(Documented)

First Woman Minister : Rajkumar Amrit Kaur
of Indian Union

First Woman : Sucheta Kriplani
Chief Minister of State

First Woman Governor : Sarojini Naidu

First Woman President of : Dr. Annie Besant
Indian National Congress

First Woman Speaker of a : Shanno Devi
State Assembly

First Prime Minister of : Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru
India

First Muslim President of : Dr. Zakir Hussain
Indian Union

First Speaker of : G.V. Mavlankar
Lok Sabha

First Woman Judge in : Fathima Beevi
Supreme Court

First Woman Chief Justice : Leela Seth
of a High Court

First Indian Woman to go : Kalpana Chawla
in space

First Indian woman : Sonali Banerjee
Merchant Navy Officer

First Dalit Speaker of the : G.M.C. Balayoki
Lok Sabha

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COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORT

POSTAL SERVICE IN INDIA

First Postal Service was started in - 1837

First All-India Postal Stamp was issued - 1854

First Postal Department was opened - 1854

First Money Order was started in - 1880

First Air-Mail Service was first operated
at Allahabad & Nainital - 1911

Total No. of Postal Zones - 8

PINCODE was started in the year - 1972

PINCODE ZONES AND THEIR JURISDICTION

Pincode Zone	Jurisdiction
Zone No.1	Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, Chandigarh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir
Zone No.2	Uttar Pradesh
Zone No.3	Rajasthan, Gujarat, Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Zone No.4	Maharashtra, Goa & Madhya Pradesh
Zone No.5	Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka
Zone No.6	Tamil Nadu, Kerala & Lakshadweep
Zone No.7	West Bengal, Orissa, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura and Andaman & Nicobar Islands
Zone No.8	Bihar

TELECOMMUNICATION

First Telephone line was started - 1851
between Kolkata and Diamond Harbour

First Telephone service was started - 1881
at Kolkata

First Telephone exchange was opened - 1881
at Kolkata with 50 lines

First International Telephone line was - 1870
started between Mumbai and London

First Automatic Telephone exchange in - 1913
Simla was opened at

Post and Telecommunication started - 1984

Total Post Offices (2000) - 1,55,000

Quick Mail Service was started in - 1975

Speed Post was started in - 1986

E-Post was started in - 2002

INDIAN RAILWAYS

The Indian Railways system is the largest in Asia and third in the world after U.S., and Canada, it is the biggest employer in the world and largest public sector undertaking in India and it has the second biggest electrified system in the world after Russia. On April 16, 1853 first train in India was opened between Bombay and

is considered to be the Father of Indian Cinema.

- ‡ The first talkie film 'Alam Ara' was produced in 1931 by Ardeshir Irani.
- ‡ India tops in the world in respect of production of feature films.
- ‡ The film producing centre in Mumbai (Bombay) is known as Bollywood.
- ‡ The most prestigious award in the Indian film world is Dada Saheb Phalke Award instituted by the Government of India.
- ‡ The name of the award given to male actors in India is the Bharat Award and the award given to actresses is the Urvashi Award.
- ‡ Swarna Kamal (Golden Kamal) is the name of the award given to the best film of the year by the Government of India.
- ‡ Adi Shankara directed by G.V. Iyer is the first Sanskrit film in India.
- ‡ Satyajit Ray was the world renowned Indian director. His first film was Pathar Panjali. He won a special Oscar Award.
- ‡ The first Indian to win an Oscar was Bhanu Athiya.
- ‡ The first cinemascope film in India was Kagaz ki Phool.
- ‡ The National Film Archives of India is located at Pune.
- ‡ The first actress of the Indian cinema to win a Padmashri Award was Nurgis Dutt (1958).
- ‡ Sivaji Ganesan was the first Indian to win the Chevalier award instituted by the French Government.
- ‡ The first winner of the Dada Saheb Phalke Award was Devika Rani Bhowmik (1969). She is known as the 'Lady of Indian Film'.
- ‡ M.G. Ramachandran was the first film star to become the Chief Minister of an Indian State.
- ‡ The first International Film Festival of India was held in 1952.
- ‡ The 2002 International Film Festival of India took place in New Delhi.

RADIO AND TELEVISION

- ‡ Radio broadcasting started in India in 1927 with privately owned transmitters at Mumbai and Calcutta. It was named All India Radio (AIR) in 1936 and later became to be known as Akashvani since 1957.
- ‡ The experimental telecast of Doordarshan started in Delhi in 1959. The national programme and other transmissions started in 1982. Doordarshan Commercial Service started in 1986.

PIB - Press Information Bureau

ABC - Audit Bureau of Circulation

No newspapers are published from Arunachal Pradesh and Lakshadweep.
Anand Bazar Patrika has the largest circulation among single edition dailies.

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

- ‡ The first newspaper in India was James A. Hickey's Bengal Gazette published in 1780 in Calcutta.
- ‡ The largest number of newspapers are published in the State of Uttar Pradesh and the language in which the maximum number of newspapers are published is Hindi.
- ‡ The oldest existing newspaper in India is Bombay Samachar published in 1822 in Gujarati. The oldest existing English daily is the Times of India (1838).
- ‡ Malayala Manorama enjoys the distinction of being the newspaper with the highest circulation and the Times of India is the largest selling English daily.
- ‡ There are four main news agencies in India. They are (1) Press Trust of India (PTI) (2) United News of India (UNI) (3) Samachar Bharati and (4) Hindustan Samachar. PTI and UNI supply news in English and the other two are operating through the medium of Hindi and other Indian languages.
- ‡ The Press Trust of India was the first news agency in India.

Some Important Newspapers and places of publication

The Statesman	Calcutta; New Delhi
The Times of India	Mumbai; New Delhi etc.
The Hindustan Times	New Delhi
The Pioneer	Lucknow
The Bombay Samachar	Mumbai
Dawn	Karachi
Izvestia	Moscow
Pravda	Moscow
Peoples Daily	Beijing
The Hindu	Chennai, Coimbatore, Etc.,
The Amrita bazar Patrika	Calcutta
The Indian Express	Chennai-Madurai etc.,
Daily Thanthi	Chennai-Madurai etc.,
The Patriot	New Delhi
The Tribune	Chandigarh
The Times	London
Al Ahram	Cairo
The Daily News	New York
Merdeka	Jakarta
Le Monde	Paris

Utopia
Universe Around Us
Unto This Last
Untold Story
Upturned Soil, The
Uttara-Rama Charita
Utopia

V

Vande Mataram
Vanity Fair
Venisamhar
Viceroy's Journal
Vikar of Wakefield
Vinayapatrika
Viswambhara
Vanity of Human Wishes
Village, The
Vendor of Sweets
Voice of Conscience

W

Waiting for Godot
Wake Up India
Walls of Glass
War and Peace

Thomas More
James Jeans
John Ruskin
B.M.Kaul
Mikhail Sholokhov
Bhava Bhuti
Thomas Moore

Bankim Chandra
William Thackeray
Narayana Bhatt
Penderal Moon
Oliver Goldsmith
Tulsidas
Dr.C.N.Reddy
Samuel Johnson
Mulk Raj Anand
R.K.Narayan
V.V.Giri

Thomas Becket
Annie Besant
K.A.Abbas
Tolstoy

War of Indian Independence
Waste Land
Way of All Flesh
Wealth of Nations
What Went Wrong?
... and continues
Wilhelm Meister
Wings of Fire
Witness to an Era
Wreck, The
Wuthering Heights

Y

Yama
Yashodara

Yayati

Year of the Vulture
Yesterday and Today
Yogi and the Bear

Z

Zakir Hussain
Zhivago, Dr.
Zulfi, My Friend

Vir Savarkar
T.S.Elliot
Samuel Butler
Adam Smith
Kiran Bedi

Goethe
A.P.J. Abdul Kalam
Frank Moraes
Rabindranath Tagore
Emily Bronte

Mahadevi Verma
Maithalisharan
Gupta
Vishnu Sakhamam
Khandekar
Amita Malik
K.P.S.Menon
S.Nihal Singh

B.B.Ahluwalia
Boris Pasternak
Philomody

SPORTS

PLACES ASSOCIATED WITH SPORTS

Aintree (U.K.)

Bisley

Blackheath London

Chepauk Ground (Chennai)

Doncheste (England)

Eden Gardens (Kolkata)

Epsom (England)

Feroze Shah Kotla Ground(Delhi)

Florence Chadwik

Forest Hills (New York)

Henley (U.K.)

Grand National Horse

Race

Shooting

Rugby Football

Cricket

SLEDGE Horse Race

Cricket

Derby Horse Races

Cricket

Skiing

Tennis

Regatta (Boat Race)

Hurlingham (England)

Leeds (England)

Lords (England)

Mortlake (England)

Nehru Stadium (Chennai)

Oval (England)

Putney

Trent Bridge (England)

Twickenham (England)

Wembley Stadium (England)

Wimbledon (England)

Yankee Stadium (New York)

Polo

Cricket

Cricket

Swimming

Cricket

Cricket

Boat-rowing

Cricket

Rugby

Association Football

Lawn Tennis

Boxing

TROPHIES ASSOCIATED WITH SPORTS INTERNATIONAL

American Cup

Ashes

Asia Cup

Asia Oceania

Canada Cup

Colombo Cup

Colombo Cup

Corbillion Cup

Davis Cup

Derby

Eisenhower Trophy

Grand National

Jules Rimet Trophy

King's Cup

Yatch Racing

Cricket (Australia England)

Cricket

Tennis

Golf(World Championship)

Golf (World Championship)

Foot ball (India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Myanmar)

World Table Tennis (Women)

Tennis / Lawn Tennis

Horse Race (England)

Golf (Amateurs - World)

Horse Steeple Chase Race (England)

World Soccer Cup

Air Races (England)

Merdeka

MRF World Cup

Prince of Wales Cup

Schneider Cup

Swaythling Cup

Thomas Cup

TunkuAbdul-Rahman Cup

U Thant Cup

UberCup

Walker Cup

Westchester Cup

Wightman Cup

Wimbledon Trophy

World Cup

World Cup

Football (Asian)

Cricket & Boxing

Golf (England)

Seaplane Race (U.K.)

World Table Tennis (Men)

World Badminton

Badminton (Asian)

Tennis

World Badminton (Women)

Golf (England)

Polo (England)

Lawn Tennis (Women of

U.S.A. and England).

Lawn Tennis

Cricket

Hockey

NATIONAL

Aga Khan Cup	Hockey	Nagjee Trophy	Football
All-India Women's Guru Nanak Championship	Hockey	Nehru Trophy	Hockey
Bangalore Blues	Basketball	Nizam Gold Cup	Football
Challenge Cup		Obaidullah Gold Cup	Hockey
Barna-Bellack Cup	Table Tennis (Men)	Prithi Singh Cup	Polo
Beighton Cup	Hockey (Calcutta)	Radha Mohan Cup	Polo
Bombay Gold Cup	Hockey	Raghubir Singh Memorial Cup	Football
Burdwan Trophy	Weightlifting	Rajkumari Challenge Cup	Table Tennis (Junior Girls)
Chakola Gold Trophy	Football	Ramanujam Trophy	Table Tennis (Junior Boys)
Cock of the Fleet Trophy	Regatta	Ramnivas Ruia Challenge Gold Trophy	Bridge
D.C.M. Trophy	Football	Rangaswamy Cup	National Hockey Championship
Dhyan Chand Trophy	Hockey	Ranji Trophy	National Cricket Championship
Dr. B.C. Roy Trophy	National Football (Junior)	Rene Frank Trophy	Hockey
Duleep Trophy	Cricket	Rohinton Baria Trophy	Cricket (Inter-University)
Durand Cup	Football	Rovers Cup	Football
Ezra Cup	Polo	Sahni Trophy	Hockey
F.A. Cup	Football	Santosh Trophy	National Football Championship
G.V. Raja Memorial Trophy	Football	Scindia Gold Cup	Hockey
Gurmit Trophy	Hockey	Sethu Cup	Aquatics
I.F.A. Shield	Football (Calcutta)	Sheesh Mahal Trophy	Cricket
Indira Gold Cup	Hockey	Sivanthi A. Chatterjee Gold Cup	Kabbadi
Irani Cup	Cricket	Sri Krishna Gold Cup	Football
Jaswant Singh Trophy	Best Services Sportsman	Subroto Mukerji Cup	Football (Inter-School)
Jayalakshmi Cup	National Table Tennis Championship (Women)	Tod Memorial Trophy	Football
Kuppuswamy Naidu Trophy	Hockey	Tommy Emar Gold Cup	Hockey (Women)
Lady Rattan Tata Trophy	Hockey	Vijay Hazare Trophy	Cricket
Maharaja Ranjit Singh Gold Cup	Hockey	Vittal Trophy	Football
Maulana Azad Trophy	Inter-University Sports & Athletics	Vizzy Trophy	Cricket
MCCTrophy	Hockey	Wellington Trophy	Rowing
Moinuddowla Gold Cup	Cricket		
Murugappa Gold Cup	Hockey		

WORLD CUP FOOTBALL

The most popular tournament the World Cup Foot Ball was started in 1930 and is held once in four years. In 1998 these games were held in France.

Year	Venue Country	Winners	Runners-up	Year	Venue Country	Winners	Runners-up
1930	Uruguay	Uruguay	Argentina	1974	West Germany	West Germany	Poland
1934	Italy	Italy	Czechoslovakia	1978	Argentina	Argentina	Holland
1938	France	Italy	Hungary	1982	Spain	Italy	West Germany
1950	Brazil	Uruguay	Brazil	1986	Mexico	Argentina	West Germany
1954	Switzerland	West Germany	Hungary	1990	Italy	West Germany	Argentina
1958	Sweden	Brazil	Sweden	1994	USA	Brazil	Italy
1962	Chile	Brazil	Czechoslovakia	1998	France	France	Brazil
1966	England	England	West Germany	2002	Japan/Korea	Brazil	Germany
1970	Mexico	Brazil	Italy	2006	Germany (scheduled)		
				2010	South Africa (scheduled)		

Note: In 1942 & 1946 games were not played.

support of Raja Ram Mohan Roy. *He introduced English Education in India.* The first Indian Medical College was opened at Calcutta and the Elphinstone College was founded at Bombay. He was the first Governor General to act on the principle that the first duty of British Government was to govern India for the benefit of Indians and not simply to extend the territory.

Louis Braille : He was the inventor of embossed dot system of reading and writing for the blind.

M Mahatma Gandhi : Indian leader who fought against the British rule. He believed in non-violence and led India to achieve

independence. He is called the '*Father of Indian Nation*'. Gandhiji founded the Sabarmati Ashram at Ahmedabad. Gandhiji made his first experiment of Satyagraha in Champaran. In 1919 Gandhiji led an agitation against the Rowlatt Act and made Satyagraha his instrument of struggle. Gandhiji gave to the country the slogan, "*Do or Die*". On January 30, 1948 he was assassinated at the prayer meeting. Jawaharlal Nehru declared "*The light has gone out of our lives*". The world dignitaries visit his Samadhi at Rajghat whenever they visit India.

Mahavira : Vardhaman Mahavira is considered to be the founder of Jainism. *He was born as Kundagram near Vaisali. He was called Mahavira or the Great Hero and Jina or the Conqueror.* He first preached in Maghada. His teachings were *Karma and Transmigration* and *Nirvana*. The object of life is to attain Nirvana, which can be achieved by following the three fold path namely (1) Right Faith, (2) Right Knowledge and (3) Right Conduct. These three principles are called "*Three Jewels*" or "*The Ratna*". The Jains worship Tirthankaras. Mahavira died at the age of 72 at Pawa. (Patna district).

Mahmud of Ghazani : A brilliant General and a mighty conqueror. He led as many as 17 expeditions into India. He attacked the most celebrated temple of Somnath. He entered the temple, broke the idol and took vast booty. He would rather like to be known as Mahmud the idol-breaker than Mahmud the idol-seller. The frequent invasions and conquest of India. He was a patron of art and letters. *Alberuni, Firdausi and Ansari* adorned his court. He also erected mosques and one of the mosques was called the "*Celestial bride*".

Major Yuri Gagarin : This Russian cosmonaut was the first spaceman of the world at the age of 27. He launched into space on April 12, 1961 in *Vostok I* and returned to earth safely. He died in an aircrash.

Manu : Famous Hindu Law giver and author of *Manu Smriti*.

Margaret Atwood : One of Canada's most prolific and well known authors bagged the prestigious Booker Prize for 2000 in London on November 7, 2000 for her novel "*The Blind Assassin*". The 60 year old author

has written some 10 novels and various critical works and poetry collections.

Maria Montessori : Founder of the Montessori system of child education, who hailed from Italy. Her system enables the child to learn naturally and easily.

Martin Luther : A celebrated German reformer who fought against the dogmas of the Catholic Church and got himself excommunicated on that account. His movement of reformation eventually led to the emergence of Protestantism.

Masti Venkatesh Iyengar : The grand old man of Kannada literature, popularly known as '*Masti*' and also '*Srinivasa*', he won the Jnanpith Award in 1983 for his novel '*Chikkaveera Rajendra*'.

Megasthenes : Megasthenes was a Greek scholar who was sent by Seleucus as an ambassador to the court of Chandra Gupta Maurya. He lived in Pataliputra, the capital of Chandragupta for about a period of 5 years. During his stay whatever he heard and saw with his own eyes he jotted down in a book called "*Indica*". *Indica* throws a flood of light on the personality of the king, his capital and also his system of administration.

Michael Faraday : He was an English Scientist who made important discoveries in electricity and magnetism which laid the foundation of the modern electrical industry. At first, he was assistant to Sri Humphrey Davy at the Royal Institution.

Mother Teresa : The angel of mercy who conquered the world by serving the poorest of the poor. Roman Catholic nun born to Albanian parents in Yugoslavia, and baptized Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhin. Came to India and was a teacher at Kolkata. Founded "*Missionaries of Charity*", devoted to working for destitutes. Became a citizen of India in 1962. Set up about 570 homes for the poor, spread in about 125 countries. Nobel Peace Prize 1979, Magsaysay Award 1962, Bharat Ratna 1980, and many other awards. Mother Teresa died on September 5, 1997 due to cardiac arrest. She was conferred with Saint hood on October 19, 2003 at St. Peter's Square in Vatican by Pope John Paul II.

Motilal Nehru : A great patriot, famous lawyer and leader of Swaraj Party, was father of Jawaharlal Nehru.

Muhammad Tughlak : The real name of Muhammad Tughlak was Jauna Khan. He made Devagiri his capital and named it Daulatabad. This hasty project of the Sultan has caused immense suffering to the people. He issued copper coins and ordered that they should be considered equal in value to the gold and silver coins. But the people began to make counterfeit coins. The result was that the government suffered heavily and the trade and industry came to a standstill. The Sultan was a man of able ideals which were far in advance by the age in which he lived. *Ibn Batuta*, the celebrated Arabian traveller visited his court and wrote a very interesting account of his experiences.

marriage. The Widow's Home in Rajamundry was founded by him.

Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit : She was born on August 18, 1900. She was younger to Jawaharlal Nehru. Mrs. Pandit had several firsts to her credit. She was the first Indian woman to become a Cabinet Minister, when appointed as the Minister of Local Government & Health in the Congress Ministry of U.P. from 1937-1939. She was the first woman Ambassador, the first woman to lead a delegation to the U.N. General Assembly (1946-51) as well as first President (1953-54). Also led the first Indian delegation to China after the Communist regime was established. Also the first woman to head a London diplomatic mission in 1954 when she became the High Commissioner for India in London. She served as the Governor of Maharashtra for two years from 1962. The first woman to be accorded the unique honour in international diplomacy, she treated her election as President of the U.N. General Assembly more as an honour to India. Her autobiography "The Scope of Happiness" and "Selection of Speeches" are two of her well-known books. [She was awarded the "Padma Vibushan" by the Government of India and the "One world award" and medal for services to humanity in the U.S.] Her death on December 1, 1990 symbolises the fading of an era, a powerful voice that had led India's prestige soaring in international diplomacy.

Visvesvarayya, M. : A great engineer of Mysore who distinguished himself by building the dam across Cauvery in Mysore. He was also a recipient of the Bharat Ratna Award.

Viswanathan Anand : The Grandmaster became the First Indian and also Asian Chess Player to clinch the

world chess title winning the FIDE World Chess Championship in Teheran on December 24, 2000 by defeating Alexei Shirov of Spain (3.5-0.5). He was formally crowned 15th World Chess Champion.

Vladimir Lenin : Founder of modern Communist Russia who was responsible for the successful Soviet revolution of October- November 1917. He wrote "Not a single problem of a class struggle has ever been solved in history except by violence". Lenin's mausoleum is in Red Square, Moscow.

Womesh Chandra Bonnerjee : (W. C. Bonnerjee) He was the first President of the Indian National Congress, and a notable

part in the setting up of the League of Nations.

Yukta Mookhey : The 20 year old Miss India was crowned Miss. World at the last Miss World Beauty Pageant of the Millinuum

(1999) held in London. She is the third Indian beauty to bag the title in a decade, after Aishwarya Raj (1994) and Diana Hayden (1997).

Zakir Hussain. Dr. : Dr. Zakir Hussain was India's second Vice President. He was elected as President after a hot contest with former

Chief Justice K. Subba Rao. Dr. Zakir Hussain was a great educationist. He was the founder of Jamia Millia, an institution which has done a lot in the promotion of education in India. As President, Dr. Zakir Hussain pledged to serve the people wholeheartedly and impartially. He said "The whole of Bharat is my home and its people my family". He died in office on 3-5-1969. He was awarded "Bharat Ratna" for the year 1963.

GENERAL TERMINOLOGY

Ad Hoc Committee : is a committee constituted for a special purpose.

Adult Franchise : The right of voting in election granted to every adult male or female having completed 18 years, without distinction of caste, creed or colour. Also called **Adult Suffrage**.

Aggression : The act of attacking. It occurs when forces of one country enter the territory of another country. This can happen after declaration of war by or both or them, or even without any such declaration.

Agricultural Revolution : The transition from feudal to modern farming practices is referred to as agricultural revolution. It does not mean some sudden or rapid changes. It may be revolutionary in character. Like the well-known industrial revolution, some countries have experienced "agricultural revolution". Recently, the "Green Revolution" witnessed in India.

Air Pollution : means fouling up of the atmosphere as a result of discharge into it of noxious and even poisonous fumes, produced by automotive

transportation, industries, nuclear explosions, etc. The problem has recently assumed alarming proportions and nuclear explosions, etc., The problem has recently assumed alarming proportions and is presently engaging the attention of scientists all over the world.

Ambassador : a diplomatic envoy of the highest order sent by one State to another.

High Commissioner : is the designation given to the highest diplomatic representative of one Commonwealth country to another.

Apartheid : The language is spoken in South Africa. Its literal meaning is "apart-hood". The word is used to describe the policy of keeping the white and the black people separate from each other. It also means favouring one race at the cost of another. South Africa and Rhodesia follow this policy.

Asylum : means a place of refuge or protection.

Automation : Automation means use of such machines in industry as can run automatically, replacing the work

CHRONOLOGICAL EVENTS

BC

- 3000** Indus Valley Civilization, Mohen-jo-Daro & Harappa
- 563** Birth of Buddha, founder of Buddhism
- 326-327 AD** Alexander's invasion of India
- 1191** First Battle of Tarain (Thaneshwar)
- 1192** Second Battle of Tarain (Thaneshwar)
- 1498** Discovery of sea-route to India by Vasco-da-Gama
- 1526** First Battle of Panipat
- 1556** Second Battle of Panipat
- 1561** Battle of Talikota between Delhi Sultanate and Vijayanagar ruler Ramaraja. Ramaraja was killed.
- 1600** East India Company established
- 1757** Battle of Plassey
- 1760** Battle of Wandiwash. French power ended.
- 1761** Third Battle of Panipat.
- 1764** Battle of Buxar.
- 1853** First Railway line opened in India between Thana and Bombay
- 1857** First War of Independence (Sepoy Mutiny)
- 1869** 2.10.1869, Birth of Mahatma Gandhi at Porbandar
- 1881** First Census taken
- 1885** Indian National Congress was founded by A.O. Hume
- 1900** Australian Commonwealth proclaimed
- 1901** Russian and Britain, agrees of the partition of China.
- 1902** First partition of Bengal under Lord Curzon.
- 1906** Foundation of Muslim League.
- 1909** Minto-Morley Reforms.
- 1910** Mother Teresa born in Albania.
- 1911** Delhi becomes the capital - Partition of Bengal revoked - King George V crowned King of the United Kingdom and Emperor of India - First British King and Queen land in Bombay.
- 1912** Titanic, World's biggest ship, sinks in North Atlantic, Killing 1513 people - The 5th Olympic Games held in Stockholm.
- 1913** The first Asian, Rabindranath Tagore is awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature.
- 1914** World War I declared.
- 1918** World War I ends.
- 1919** "Satyagraha Movement" started by Gandhiji. Jallianwala Bagh Massacre on 13th April 1919 at Amritsar.

- 1930** "Civil Disobedience Movement" started by Gandhiji. "Dandi March" by Gandhiji on 6.4.1930. Burma separated from India.
- 1939** Death of Rabindranath Tagore (The first Indian to win the Nobel Prize for his work "Gitanjali").
- 1942** "Quit India Resolution".
- 1947** 15.8.1947 India attained Independence.
- 1948** 30.1.1948 Assassination of Gandhiji.
- 1949** 26.11.1949 Indian Constitution passed.
- 1950** 26.1.1950 India became a Sovereign Democratic Republic.
- 1952** Free India holds her First General Elections.
- 1956** State Reorganisation Act came into force on 1.11.1956.
- 1957** Decimal system of coinage introduced.
- 1966** January 4th Indo-Pak Summit, Tashkent Declaration signed on January 10. Death of Lal Bahadur Shastri.
- 1972** Simla Agreement between India and Pakistan (July 2)
- 1974** India's first Satellite "Aryabhata" launched from Cosmodrome in Soviet Union on April 19.
- 1975** "Aryabhata". Sikkim becomes 22nd State of the Indian Union. State of Emergency declared.
- 1976** India - China re-establishes diplomatic relations.
- 1977** Sixth General Elections, Morarji Desai sworn in as the first non-Congress Prime Minister. Neelam Sanjiva Reddy elected Sixth President of India.
- 1979** "Bhaskara", India's second Satellite launched into space. India's first coalition Government between Janata (S) and the Congress sworn in with Mr. Charan Singh as P.M.
- 1980** Seventh General Elections held, Indira Gandhi sworn in as Prime Minister.
- 1982** Giani Zail Singh elected as Seventh President of India. IX Asian Games opened in New Delhi.
- 1984** Bachendri Pal, first Indian woman to scale the Mount Everest. Mrs. Indira Gandhi assassinated. Rajiv Gandhi becomes the Prime Minister.
- 1985** Congress completes 100 years.
- 1987** Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh becomes 23rd and 24th States. Goa becomes 25th State. Mr. B. Venkataraman sworn in as Eleventh President.
- 1988** M.G.Ramachandran (MGR.) was given Bharat Ratna Award posthumously.
- 1989** Ninth Lok Sabha constituted. National Front Leader V.P.Singh sworn in as 10th Prime Minister.

All about Father of the Nation...

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, called Mahatma, is the Father of the Nation.

He was born on October 2, 1869 at Porbandar in Gujarat as, the son of Karamchand and Putlibai.

Gandhiji proceeded to England in 1888 and returned to India as a Barrister-at-law in 1891.

Gandhiji went to Natal in South Africa in 1893 to practise law. There he was subjected to colour discrimination and he organized Natal Indian Congress. He started the journal '*Indian Opinion*' and built Phoenix Colony and Tolstoy Farm here. He experimented the weapon Satyagraha for the first time in South Africa in 1906. So South Africa is often called his *political laboratory*. The period between 1893 and 1914, he engaged in a struggle against the racist authorities of South Africa. It was then that he evolved the teaching of Satyagraha based on *truth and non-violence*.

He returned to India in 1915, leaving South Africa for ever.

Gandhiji built his ashram on the banks of *Sabarmati* in Gujarat on January 29, 1916.

Gandhiji's first Satyagraha in India was for the rights of indigo workers in Champaran (Bihar) in 1917.

Gandhiji's first fast was in 1918 in connection with the strike of mill workers in Ahmedabad.

Gandhiji had organised in February 1919 a *Satyagraha Committee*, the members of which were to take a pledge to refuse to obey the laws of Rowlatt Act.

The Bills were enacted on March 18, 1919. The Rowlatt Satyagraha was a failure but this projected Gandhiji as "*an all India leader of immense potential*".

The Jallianwala Bagh Tragedy on April 13, 1919 had a great impact on Mahatma Gandhi. He returned the "*Kaiser-i-Hind*" medal given to him.

On November 23, 1919, Gandhiji was elected president of the *All India Khilafat Conference*, which met at Delhi.

First Non-Co-operation Movement was launched on 1st August 1920. The Non-Co-operation Movement spread to rural areas between 1921 and 1922.

Non-Co-operation Movement came to an end on February 12, 1922 in response to the violence at *Chauri Chaura*.

Gandhiji came back to active politics and attended the Calcutta session of the Congress in December 1928.

The *Civil Disobedience Movement* was started by Gandhiji on 12th March 1930.

Gandhiji along with 78 companions which included Sarojini Naidu, marched nearly 375 km from *Sabarmati Ashram* to *Dandi* and broke the law by making salt from sea water.

The Congress boycotted the First Round Table Conference which was held in London on November 12, 1930.

Gandhiji attended the Second Round Table Conference held in London on September 7, 1931 as the sole representative of Congress.

"*A half naked fakir from India*" - Winston Churchill's comment about Gandhiji when he went to attend the Second Round Table Conference in London in 1931.

Gandhiji was the editor of the English weekly "*Young India*" and the Gujarati weekly "*Navajivan*". Later, he started the weekly "*Harijan*" on January 8th, 1933 and this was observed as "*Temple Entry Day*".

Gandhiji retired from Congress in October 1934.

One of the great dreams of Gandhiji was the establishment of "*Grama Swaraj*". He said, "*India lives in villages*". He started *Sewagram Ashram* on 30 April 1936.

The Congress started "*Individual Civil Disobedience*" in October 1940 and the Mahatma Gandhi.

Meanwhile Gandhiji was again arrested and on May 6, 1944, Mahatma Gandhi made earnest efforts for communal harmony with Jinnah. But the talks failed.

In 1945, a Conference was held at Simla, under Lord Wavell, the then Viceroy. Jinnah argued that only the League should nominate Muslims to the Council. The Congress refused to accept and Simla Conference broke down.

In the elections to the Central and provincial Legislatures held in 1945-46, Congress won the General seats. New Constituent Assembly started to function from December 9, 1946. *Dr. Babu Rajendra Prasad* was elected the chairman of the Assembly on January 1947.

The British parliament passed the Indian Independence Act based on the Mountbatten plan in July 18, 1947.