### I. SANCHI STUPA

1. Sanchistupa is located in Madhya Pradesh.
2. One of the most ancient and famous Buddhist monuments in India.
3. The stupa has several chambers which contain the relics of Buddha.
4. The Sanchistupa was constructed by Emperor Ashoka in 3rd century BC during Mauryan Age.
5. It is hemispheric structure made up of bricks, consist of circular terrace.
6. The Stupa is surrounded by four gateways that represent various scenes from the life of Lord Buddha and Jataka tales.

### II. INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION

1. The cities flourished in the valley of the river Indus. hence, it was called The Indus Valley Civilization. It was discovered in the year 1921.
2. Initially Indus Valley Civilization was known as Harappan Civilization.
3. Harappa and Mohenjo-daro are two major sites of this civilization.
5. Special features: Town planning, Use of baked bricks, Roads and drainage, planned houses, Granaries.
6. Important artifacts
   - Harappa (Pakistan) - Mother Goddess figure, Dancing girl, Male Torso.
   - Mohenjo-daro (Pakistan) - The Great Bath, Granary, Sculpture of bearded priest, Pashupati seal made of Steatite.

### III. KANHA NATIONAL PARK

1. Kanha National Park or Kanha Reserve Tiger. It is situated in Mandla and Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh.
2. Kanha National Park was created in June 1955 and was made the Kanha Tiger reserve in 1973.
3. It is the first tiger reserve to officially introduce a mascot named “Bhoorsingh” the Barasingha.
4. The swamp deer or Barasingha of Kanha National Park is known as ‘the jewel of Kanha’.
5. It had inspired Rudyard Kipling for his famous novel Jungle Book.
6. Land of the Tigers is an award winning film that was made in 1980 on Kanha National Park for National geography.

### IV. TABLA
1. The tabla, an Indian drum used for North Indian Music, Classical and devotional.
2. The word tabla is originated from Arabic word tabla.
3. The instrument is two hand drums of different size and shape.
4. The tabla is mostly created from brass, clay or wood. It has hollows.
5. The tabla originated from the more ancient cylindrical drum called the pakhawaj.
6. There are different Gharanas or houses of Tabla.
7. Notable player Zakir Hussain.

V. SOLAR SYSTEM
1. The solar system constituted by the Sun, 8 planets, satellites, comets, asteroids, meteoroids.
2. The Sun is a star – a massive ball of hot gas that gives off light and heat.
3. The four inner planets or terrestrial planets - Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars are smaller and mostly of rock and metal.
4. The outer planets or gas giants - Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune made mostly of hydrogen, helium and other gases.
5. The closest planet - Mercury, Farthest away is Neptune.
6. The biggest planet – Jupiter, smallest planet - Mercury
7. The hottest planet – Venus, the coldest - Uranus.
8. The Earth is also known as Blue planet the only planet where life exists.
9. Mars called as ‘the red planet’ because of rocks that it is made from are red.
10. Asteroid belt lies between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter.

VI. HARSHAVALIDHAN
1. Harshavardhan ruled the Northern India and established a strong empire.
2. He lost his kingdom to Pulakesin II the Chalukya king of Vatapi. Thus Southern India was left untouched by him.
3. Harshavardhan, also a great author wrote three plays in Sanskrit - Nagananda, Ratnavali and Priyadarshika.
4. His court poet Banabhatta also known as Bana wrote Harshacharitha.
5. He was a Mahayana Buddhist.

VII. WARLI ART
1. Warli painting is tribal art created by the tribal people Originated in Maharashtra.
2. The focal points depicted: Mother Nature & elements of the nature.
3. Traditionally painting is done on wall using basic geometrical patterns like Triangle, circles, square,
4. Circle depicted - sun and moon, Triangle depicted - trees and mountains, two triangles joint at the tip form humans, Square depicted – piece of land where they worship Palghat
5. Daily life and social events are generally depicted in these paintings. Paintings of festive occasion, marriage, birth, harvest are painted.
6. These paintings are done by women on red mud wall by using chewed bamboo stick which is used as fabric brush.

VIII. Ashoka
1. Ashoka, also known as Samrat Chakravartin, devanampriya, pridarshin was great emperor of
Mauryan Dynasty.

2. He became follower of Buddhism after the war of Kalinga.
3. He sent his son Mahendra and daughter Sanghamitra to Sri Lanka for spreading Buddhism.
4. He created rock edicts and pillar edicts to talk about religious freedom.
5. The Lion capital of Ashoka, adopted as the national emblem of India.
6. The Ashoka Chakra (the wheel of Ashoka the Great) is depiction of Dharmachakra forms the centre of the Indian national Flag.

IX. Bihu
1. Bihu is a harvest festival of Assam.
2. Bihu dance festival is set of Three festivals:- BohagBihu, KongaliBihu and BhogaliBihu.
3. The word Bihu is derived from the language of Dimasa (agrarian tribe) people.
4. JengBihu is a Bihu Dance in which only female Dancers take part.
5. Bihu Dance is performed in a group characterized by brisk steps and rapid hand movements.

X. Kautilya
1. Chanakya assisted the first Mauryan emperor Chandragupta in his rise to power. He is widely credited for having played an important role in the establishment of the Maurya Empire.
2. Chanakya served as the chief advisor to both emperors Chandragupta and his son Bindusara.
3. He is traditionally identified as Kauṭilya or Vishnugupta, who authored the ancient Indian political treatise, the Arthashastra, a text dated to roughly between the 2nd century BCE and the 3rd century CE.
4. Two books are attributed to Chanakya: Arthashastra and ChanakyaNiti, also known as ChanakyaNeeti-shastra.
5. Chanakya was educated at Taxila or Takshashila in present day Pakistan.

XI. Ajanta Ellora caves
1. The Ajanta Caves are 30 (approximately) rock-cut Buddhist cave monuments which date from the 2nd century BCE to about 480 CE in Aurangabad district of Maharashtra state of India.
2. According to UNESCO, these are masterpieces of Buddhist religious art that influenced the Indian art that followed.
3. The Ajanta Caves constitute ancient monasteries and worship-halls of different Buddhist traditions carved into a 75-metre (246 ft) wall of rock. The caves also present paintings depicting the past lives and rebirths of the Buddha, pictorial tales from Aryasura's Jatakamala, and rock-cut sculptures of Buddhist deities.

XII. River Ganga
1. The point of origin of Ganga is Gangotri Glacier in Himalayas’ southern slope and it runs through India and Bangladesh, covering a total distance of 1560 miles or 2520 kilometers.
2. River Ganga touches the states Uttarakhand, Uttarpradesh,Bihar, Jharkhand and West
3. The Ganga, is a trans-boundary river of the Indian subcontinent which flows through the nations of India and Bangladesh. The 2,525 km (1,569 mi) river rises in the western Himalayas in the Indian state of Uttarakhand, and flows south and east through the Gangetic Plain of North India. After entering West Bengal, it divides into two rivers: the Hooghly and the Padma River.

4. The tributaries of Ganga are:- Bhagirathi, Alaknanda, Yamuna, Chambal, Ghaghra, son, kosi.

XIII. Nalanda

1. Nalanda was an ancient Mahavihara, a large and revered Buddhist monastery, in the ancient kingdom of Magadha (modern-day Bihar) in India. The site is located about 95 kilometres (59 mi) southeast of Patna near the city of Bihar Sharif, and was a centre of learning from the fifth century CE to c. 1200 CE.

2. It was built by Narsimha Deva in the 6th century B.C. and remained the best without any hindrance for over 800 years with around 10,000 students and nearly 2700 faculties who came from all over the world (Korea, Japan, China, Tibet, Indonesia, Greater Iran, Persia, Greece, Mongolia and many more).

3. The University had 10 temples, meditation centers and the greatest library of the world divided into three building-Ratnasagara (nine storeyed building), Ratnadadhi and Ratnaranjaka; which not only contained religious manuscripts but had a huge collection of books on literature, astrology, philosophy, science, warfare, history, economics, law, geology, maths, architecture, metallurgy, linguistics, astronomy, medicine and many more. And knowledge was imparted on all these subjects virtually. Most renowned departments were Mathematical and Astronomical.

4. In 1193, Nalanda University was destroyed by the fanatic Bakhtiyar Khilji who declined Buddhism in India and tried his best to uproot Buddhism and burned thousands of monks alive.

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XV. Chhattisgarh

1. The northern and southern parts of the state are hilly, while the central part is a fertile plain. The highest point in the state is the Gaurlata. Deciduous forests of the Eastern Highlands Forests cover roughly 44% of the state The state animal are the van bhainsa, or wild Asian...
buffalo. The state bird is the *pahari myna*, or hill myna. The state tree is the Sal (Sarai) found in Bastar division.

2. Chhattisgarh borders the states of Madhya Pradesh in the northwest, Uttar Pradesh in the north, Jharkhand in northeast, Maharashtra in the southwest, Telangana in the south, Odisha in the southeast. Currently the state comprises 27 districts. Total area of Chhattisgarh is 135192 square km. The outline of Chhattisgarh is like a sea horse.

3. Important rivers are Mahanadi, Indravati, Hasdeo, shivnath, Kharun, Kelo, Arpa, Dankani-shankhini

4. The climate of Chhattisgarh is tropical. It is hot and humid because of its proximity to the Tropic of Cancer which passes from Sarguja&Korinya districts and its dependence on the monsoons for rains. Summer temperatures in Chhattisgarh can reach 45 °C (113 °F).

5. The monsoon season is from late June to October and is a welcome respite from the heat. Chhattisgarh receives an average of 1,292 millimeters (50.9 in) of rain. Winter is from November to January.
### HERITAGE WRITE-UPS (2019-2020)

**CLASS 7**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SR.NO.</th>
<th>TOPICS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.</strong></td>
<td><strong>SHER SHAH SURI</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Sher Shah Suri</strong> (1486 – 22 May 1545), born <strong>Farīd Khān</strong>, was the founder of the <strong>Suri Empire</strong> in the northern part of the <strong>Indian subcontinent</strong>, with its capital in <strong>Sasaram</strong> in modern-day <strong>Bihar</strong>.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>He introduced a system of tri-metalism called <strong>'Rupia'</strong>.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>He established four main central departments: <strong>Diwan-i-wijarat</strong> (Finance Department); <strong>Diwan-i-arz</strong> (Military Department); <strong>Diwan-i-insha</strong> (Royal Secretariat); and <strong>Diwan-i-Rasalat</strong> (Department for religious and foreign affairs).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Constructed four important roads: <strong>Grand Trunk Road</strong> from Sonargaon to Peshawar; road from Agra to Multan via Burhanpur and Delhi; road from Multan to Lahore; and road from Mandu to Agra. These roads were lined with trees, wells and rest houses.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sher shah divided his whole empire into 47 administrative units called ‘Sarkars’ and then smaller units called ‘Parganas’.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2.</strong></td>
<td><strong>AKBAR</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jalaluddin Muhammad Akbar was the third emperor of the Mughal Empire, after Babur and Humayun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Centralized Government: Wakeel:</strong> They were the chief advisors of the Emperor who headed the administration -Diwan – were of two categories -Mansabdars- controlled the finances -Mir-Baksh – distributed pays to senior officials.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>He had Nine Navaratnas or nine jewels at his court, this include: Abul Fazl, Faizi, Tansen, Birbal, Raja Todar Mal (finance officer), Raja Man Singh, Abdul Rahim Khan-I-Khana (hindi literature poet), Fakir Aziao-Din and Mullah Do Piazza.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Akbar’s land revenue system was known as ‘Zabti system’.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The famous architectural achievements during his reign are the fortified-palace of Agra, Fatehpur Sikriin Agra, Jahangiri Mahal, Palace in Allahabad, Fort in Ajmer, Jodha Bai Palace, House of Birbal and his own magnificent tomb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.</strong></td>
<td><strong>RAJIA SULTAN</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Razia Sultana was the fifth Mamluk Sultan and the only female ever to rule as the Sultan of Delhi.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>She gave up purdah and proved to be an efficient ruler both in administering her government and in leading forces at war.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>In her almost four years of rule she established proper law and order, made governmental reforms, infrastructural improvements and encouraged trade.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4.</strong></td>
<td><strong>YAKSHAGANA DANCE</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A Yakshagana performance includes music, dance and dialogues. It is believed to have originated in the coastal districts of Karnataka.

In 13th century, a Sage named Narahari Thirtha started Dashavathara performance in Udupi, which later developed into the Yakshagana of today.

The poetic songs sung by the chief musician known as the’ Bhagvata’ who controls the narrative.

The play begins with a prelude called the “Sabhalakshana” followed by the “Prasanga”. The narrative humor is performed by the antics of the clown called the” Hasyagar.

**5. PRITHVIRAJ CHAUHAN**
- Prithviraja III, famous as Prithviraj Chauhan, was one of the greatest Rajput rulers.
- Karpuradevi, was made his regent.
- He won the first Battle of Tarain in 1191 by defeating Shahabuddin Muhammad Ghoti.
- Chauhan was defeated at the second battle in 1192 following which he was captured.
- The love of Prithviraja and Sanyogita and the princess’s eventual abduction (with her acquiescence) have been immortalized in Chand Bardai’s epic Prithviraj Raso (or Chand Raisa).

**6. SURAT**
- Surat, city, southeastern Gujarat state, west-central India. It lies near the mouth of the Tapti River at the Gulf of Kambhat (Cambay).
- Surat became the emporium of India, exporting cloth and gold.
- Its major industries were textile manufacture and shipbuilding.
- The British established their first Indian factory (trading post) at Surat (1612).
- Surat was awarded "best city" by the Annual Survey of India's City-Systems (ASICS) in 2013.
- Surat, famous for its diamond cutting and polishing is known as the Diamond City of India.

**7. THE SUN TEMPLE**
- Believed to have been built in the 13th century CE the temple was built by the King Narasimhadeva I hailing from the Eastern Ganga dynasty between 1238-1250 CE.
- The temple was commissioned by the king while Samantaraya Mahapatra was the one in charge of its construction. ‘Konark’ means the sun and the four corners.
- The temple was called Black Pagoda attributing to its dark facade by the Europeans who used it for navigation for their ships.
- The entrance leads to the shrine of the deity of Surya made of chlorite stone.
- The wheels of the temple can be used as sundials.

**8. SUNDERBANS, THE NATIONAL PARK**
- It was declared a wildlife sanctuary in 1977 and established as a national park on 4th May, 1984.
- Sundarbans were declared a tiger reserve under Project Tiger in 1973.
- It is a part of the world’s largest delta and home to the largest mangrove forests.
- Apart from the Royal Bengal Tiger, other animals found in these areas are fishing cats, macaques, leopard cats, Indian grey mongoose, wild boar, flying fox, pangolin, and Indian grey mongoose. The chital deer and rhesus monkey are common sightings.

9. **Bandhavgarh National Park:**
   a. Located in Umaria district in Uttar Pradesh
   b. Declared a national park in 1968
   c. Name derived from the name of an enclosed hillock which is said to have been received by Laxmana from lord Rama to maintain surveillance over Ceylon.
   d. The name literally means: fort of the brother.
   e. Boast the highest tiger population in all of Indian national parks.

10. **Qutub Minar:**
    a. Qutub-din Aibek laid the foundation and was completed by Ilutmish.
    b. It is a commemorative Victory tower made out of red sandstone.
    c. The tower is 73m tall, 14.3m at the base and 2.7m at the top
    d. Contains a spiral staircase of 349 steps.
    e. In 1369 a thunder strike damaged the top floor which was later replaced by Firoz Shah Tughlaq and another floor was added.

11. **Santoor:**
    a. It is a trapezoid shaped hammered dulcimer and is a variation of The Iranian Dulcimer.
    b. He instrument is generally made of walnut.
    c. It generally has 25 bridges and 100 strings.
    d. In early Sanskrit his instrument was called Shatha Tantri Veena
    e. Santoor is a must have accompaniment or Sufiana Mausiqi school of music.

12. **State Government:**
    a. State governments are head of the council of ministers in a state.
    b. Deals with internal security through state police.
    c. Chief minister is the head of state government.

13. **Kabir Das:**
    a. 15<sup>th</sup> century Indian Mystic, poet and Saint.
    b. According to popular belief he is responsible for Hinduism’s Bhakti Movement.
    c. He is believed to have been brought up bay a family of weavers.
    d. He was a well known disciple of Swami Ramananda in Varanasi.

14. **Red Fort:**
    - Residence of the royal Mughals for about 200 years.
    - Built by Shah Jahan
- Designed by Ustaad Ahmad Lahori.
- It was intended to be the strongest fortification in Shahjahanabad
- Construction was started on 12\(^{th}\) May 1639 and completed on 6\(^{th}\) April 1648.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>15. Ahoms tribes:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Ethnic group found in Assam and Arunachal</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Descendent of Tai people who came to Assam in 1228</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Sukapha and his 9000 followers established the Ahoms Empire and ruled between 1228-1826.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- In spite of being a demographic minority they still maintain their language and culture</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>16. Rana Pratap:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Popularly known as the Maha Ranapratak was the 13(^{th}) king of Mewar.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Son of Uda Singh II at Kumbhalgarh fort on 9(^{th}) may 1540.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- In the battle of Haldighati he faced Akbar’s forces under Man Singh I of Amer.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- The Mughals defeated the Rajputs but failed to capture the Maharana due to the bravery of his Mewari horse named chetak.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## HERITAGE QUIZ

### CLASS VIII

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Lakshmi Bai</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Lakshmi bai, queen of Jhansi, full name Manikarnika Tambe</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Jhansi presently situated at Jhansi district in UP</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. On 10(^{th}) May 1857 Indian rebellion started in Meerut.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Rani conducted haldi kumkum festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Hugh Rose commander of British force attacked Jhansi and besieged on 23(^{rd}) March, 1858.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. According to tradition she left Jhansi with Damodar Rao on her back on her horse Badal, escorted by Basrat Ali, Gulam Gaus Khan, Dost Khan, Moti Bai, Kashi Bai.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Rani Jhansi with the help of Tantya Tope and other leaders occupied Gwalior fort.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Nana Saheb became peshwa of a revived Maratha dominion with Rao Sahib as his Governor.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Her tomb built in the Phool Bagh area of Gwalior, kotah ki sarai.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>TISCO</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Tata Iron and Steel Company Limited, presently known as Tata Steel Limited.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. It is a Multinational Steel Company.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. It’s headquarter is situated at Mumbai</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. It was founded in the year 1907 by Jamsedji Tata.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Present Chairman Natarajan Chandra Dekaran, CEO and Managing Director T V Narendran.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Products of this company are – steel, flat steel products, long steel products, wire products, plates.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Its marketing headquarter situated at the Tata centre, Kolkata.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. It has presence in around 50 countries with manufacturing operations in 26 countries.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Vishva Bharati</strong></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Is a public central university located in Santi Niketan.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. It means the communication of the world with India.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. It was a college till independence.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. In 1951, the given the status of a university and renamed as Vishva Bharati University.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Some renowned alumni of this institution includes Nobel prize winner Amartya Sen, Satyajit Ray, art historian R. Sivakumar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. Chancellor of this University Prime Minister, Vice Chancellor Bidyut Chakraborty.

7. First Vice Chancellor was Rathindranath Tagore (Eldest son of Rabindranath Tagore)

**Central Legislature**

1. The Parliament of India is the Supreme Legislative body of the Republic of India.
2. It is composed of two houses – Rajya Sabha, Lok Sabha.
3. It was founded on 26th Jan, 1950.
7. Speaker of the Lok Sabha- Sumitra Mahajan (BJP).
9. Leader of the House (Lok Sabha)- Narendra Modi.
11. The Parliament has sanctioned seat/strength-545.

**Indian Textiles/Weaving Pattern**

1. Handloom is a loom powered manually rather than by industrial means.
2. The textile industry continues to be the second largest employment generating sector in India.
3. One of India’s oldest fabric is a traditionally cotton.
4. Banaras a famed weaving centre is known for gold and silver brocades, fabrics with raised design.
5. Varanasi sarees are sometimes embellished with Zari, which embroidered in pure gold.
7. The major functions of the ministry of textiles are formulating policy and coordination of man-made fibre, cotton, jute, silk, wool industries, decentralization of power loom sector, promotion of exports, planning and economic analysis, finance and promoting use of information technology.

**Agaria Tribe**

1. Traditionally, Agarias are iron smelter workers and miners.
2. Agarias are known by different names. They are referred to Patharia, Khuntia, Chok, Mahali, Asur Agaria in the Bilaspur district.
3. They live in the northern and central states of India-Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chattishgarh, Jharkhand.
4. Under the Constitution of 1950, the Agaria tribes were granted certain privileges, such as – fixed quotas in government jobs, higher education.
institutions, as well as reserved seats in parliament and state Legislatures.

5. Hindu Agaria tribes are divided into several clans-gothisar,kuri, got. Marriages are permissible between these units or clans.

### Civil Disobedience Movement

1. Salt March or Dandi Satyagraha started from 12/03/1930- 06/04/1930

2. This movement started direct action campaign of tax resistance and non violent protest against the British slat monopoly.

3. Mk Gandhi Started this march with 78 followers, it was a journey over 240 miles from Sabarmati Ashram to Dandi( which was known Navsari) at that time.

4. The Congress party planned to stage a satyagraha at Dharsana.

5. Satyagraha teachings of Gandhiji and march to Dandi had significant effect on American activists Martin Luther King James Bevel during the Civil Right Movement.

6. The Viceroy at that time was Lord Irwin.

7. At the end of 1930, Time Magazine made him “Man of the year”. The New York Times wrote almost daily about the Salt march.

8. The salt march also called as white flowing river because all the people joining the procession wearing white khadi.

9. In Peshawar, satyagraha was led by a Muslim Pashto disciple of Gandhi, Abdul Gaffar Khan, who trained 50000 non violent activists known Khudai Khidmatgar.

10. In March 1930 Gandhi met with Lord Irwin and signed an agreement known as the Gandhi Irwin pact.

### TIPU SULTAN

- Tipu sultan also known as the Tiger of Mysore. His full name was Sultan Fateh Ali Khan Sahab.

- He learned shooting, riding and swordsmanship at a very young age. It facilitated him to capture the family of the Malabar chief, at the age of 15, with a military force of merely two or three thousand people.

- In 1761, his father Hyder Ali was the ruler of Mysore.

- Tipu Sultan wrote a military manual called Fathul Mujahidin. The manual explains the operation of Mysore rockets.

- In 1789, Tipu attacked the British controlled state of Travancore, triggering another war in 1792, Tipu surrendered to British commander Cornwallis.

- In 1798, Tipu signed a secret agreement with the French leader Napoleon.
Tipu Sultan has fought four wars against the British. The series of these wars are known as Anglo-Mysore wars.

In the first war, Hyder Ali captured the whole of Madras by gaining success against the British.

Tipu Sultan had an obsession for horticulture and gardening.

Sultan was killed in the fourth Anglo-Mysore war while defending his fort of Seringapatnam against the combined forces of the British India Company and the Nizam of Hyderabad.

Shivaji:

Shivaji Bhonsle I was an Indian warrior king and a member of the Bhonsle Maratha Clan.

Shivaji was born to Jijabai and Shaji Bhonsle.

In 1674, he was formally crowned as the Chhatrapati (monarch) of his realm at Raigad.

Shivaji revived ancient Hindu political traditions and court conventions and promoted the usage of Marathi and Sanskrit, rather than Persian, in court and administration.

Shivaji learned skills of war from Dadaji Kondadev.

Afzal Khan was sent against Shivaji by the Bijapur sultan.

Jai Sing was sent by Aurangzeb against Shivaji.

Shivaji killed Afzal Khan and looted his camp in 1661 CE.

Shivaji was the disciple of Samartha Ramadas and Tukaram.

Munda Tribe:

The Munda people speak the Mundari language.

Munda Uprising/Rebellion took place in Chhotanagpur region Ranchi.

Birsamunda had adopted Guerilla Warfare techniques to launch surprise attacks in which many police officials were killed.

The Munda are found in the northern areas of east India concentrated in the states of Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal.

Munda also reside in adjacent areas of Bihar, Chhattisgarh and Arunachal Pradesh as well as in portions of Bangladesh.

Munda people in Tripura are also known as Mura, and in Madhya Pradesh they are often called Mudas.

Mage, Phagu, Karam, Sarhul and Sohrai are the few festivals celebrated among the Munda tribes.

Birsamunda was an Indian tribal freedom fighter, religious leader and folk hero who belonged to the Munda tribe.

Birsamunda’s slogan “Abua raj seterjana, maharani raj tundujana” (let the kingdom of the queen be ended and our kingdom be established”) is
**SEPoy MUTINY:**
- Indian Mutiny, also called sepoy mutiny began on May 10, 1857.
- Begun in Meerut by Indian troops (sepoys) in the service of the British East India Company, it spread to Delhi, Agra, Kanpur and Lucknow.
- The issue behind this mutiny was the new gun powder catridges for the Enfied rifle in February, 1857. A rumour was spread that the catridges were made from Cow and Pig fat.
- In May 1858, the British exiled emperor Bahadur Shah II, at the same time, they abolished the British East India company and replaced it with direct rule under the British Crown.

**VEENA:**
- It is named after the Hindu goddess Saraswati, who is usually depicted holding or playing the instrument.
- The many regional designs have different names such as the Rudra Veena, The Saraswati veena, the Vichitra veena and others.
- The South Indian veena design, used in classical Carnatic music, is a Lute.
- The Saraswati veena is the predominant Carnatic music and the Rudra veena the most played veena in Hindustani music.
- The Saraswati veena has seven strings over 24 fixed frets.
- It has a large resonator (kudam), a tapering hollow neck (dandi) and a tuning box that curves downwards (yali).
- It is played by sitting cross legged, with the resonator to the player (vainika)’s right.
- Asad Ali Khan was an Indian musician who played the plucked string instrument rudra veena. He was awarded the Indian civilian honor Padma Bhusan in 2008.

**GATEWAY OF INDIA:**
- The monument was erected to commemorate the landing of King-Emperor George V and Queen-Empress Mary at Apollo Bunder on their visit to India in 1911.
- It is built with Indo-Saracenic style.
- The archway of the monument is 26 meters (85 feet) high and joined with four
turrets and intricate lattice work carved on stones.

• The archway of the monument is built of Basalt and about 21 lakhs was spent to build the arch alone.

• The structure is an adaptation of the Arc de Triomphe in Paris.

• It is located on the waterfront at Apollo Bunder area at the end of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj marg in South Mumbai and overlooks the Arabian Sea.

• The monument has also been referred to as the Taj Mahal of Mumbai, and is the city’s top tourist attraction.

• The best time to visit Gateway of India is between October and March post monsoon.

**NAGARHOLE NATIONAL PARK:**

• It is part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.

• This park was declared the 37th Project Tiger, Tiger reserves of India in 1999.

• The Western Ghats Nilgiri sub-cluster of 6000km² (2,300 sq mi), including all of Nagarhole National Park, is under consideration by the UNESCO World Heritage committee for selection as a World Heritage site.

• The park receives an annual rainfall of 1,440 millimetres (57in).

• The main trees found here are the commercially important rosewood, teak, sandalwood and silver oak.

• The important predators and carnivores in Nagarhole National Park are the Bengal tiger, Indian leopard, Ussuri dhole, sloth bear and the striped hyena.

• The best time to visit the Nagarhole National Park is from April to May, when the waterholes are dry and the animals come out to visit the lake.

**SARDAR VALLABHBHAI PATEL:**

• He was the first Deputy Prime Minister of India and was popularly known as the Iron Man of India.

• On the first anniversary of Independence, Patel was appointed as the Home Minister of India. He was a successful barrister.

• As India’s first Home Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, Sardar Patel played a key role in the integration of the princely states.

• Patel joined Gandhi’s Non-Cooperation Movement and travelled around West India to recruit 3,00,000 members.

• Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was posthumously awarded the Bharat Ratna in 1991.

• The statue of Unity is built in dedication to Iron Man Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. It is named so because he is credited with uniting all 562 princely states in pre-independent India to build the Republic of India—hence the name of the statue.
Northeast India, considered one of the most culturally diverse regions of the world, is a land inhabited by more than 200 fascinating tribes. The north eastern part of India shares its boundary with China, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar and Bangladesh. Northeast India comprises of eight states. They are Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Assam, Manipur, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Tripura. North East Indian tribes have originated from the ethnic groups of Tibeto-Burmese, proto Austrolioids and some groups of Indo Mongoloids. Some examples of prominent tribes are Garo, Khasi, Jaintia, Adi, Nyishi, Angami, Bhutia, Kuki, Rengma, Bodo and Deori. Christian-ism is followed among many of the tribes and some also follow Hinduism and Buddhism.

AMENDMENTS

8th Amendment 1969
- Extended special provisions for reservations of seats for SCs, STs and Anglo-Indians in Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies for the period of 10 years from 1960-1970
- Extended the reservation of seats for SC/ST and nomination of Anglo-Indians for a further period of 10 years (till 1980).

Thirty eighth Amendment 1975
- Provided that the President can make a declaration of emergency, and the promulgation of ordinance the President Governors and the Administrative Heads of UTs would be final and could not be challenged in any court. It also authorized the President to declare different kinds of emergencies.

42nd Amendment 1976
- Provided supremacy of Parliament and gave primacy to Directive Principles over Fundamental Rights. It also added 10 Fundamental Duties. New words-Socialist, Secular and Unity and Integrity of the Nation, were added in the Preamble.

52nd Amendment 1985
- Added the Tenth Schedule (regarding anti-defection).

56th Amendment 1987
- Hindi version of the Constitution of India was accepted for all purposes. The UT of Goa, Daman and Diu was divided and Goa was made a State. Daman and Diu remained as a UT

61st amendment1989
- The 61st amendment of the constitution of India, officially known as The Constitution(sixty-first Amendment) Act-1988 lowered the voting age of election to the Lok Sabha and to the Legislative Assemblies of States from 21 years to 18 years.

73rd Amendment 1993
- (Panchayati Raj Bill) Provided among other things Gram Sabha in village, constitution of Panchayat at the village and other levels, direct elections to all seats in Panchayats and reservation of seats for the SC and ST and fixing of tenure of 5 years for Panchayats.

IMPORTANT SCHEDULES

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- Sindhi was added in 1967 by 21 Amendment
- Konkani, Manipuri ad Nepali were added in 1992 by 71 amendment
- Santhali, Maithili, Bodo and Dogri were added in 2003 by 92 amendment

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### Fundamental Rights:

#### Right to equality

Right to equality is an important and meaningful right provided in Articles 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 of the constitution. It is the principal foundation of all other rights and liberties, and guarantees the following:

- **Equality before law**: Article 14 of the constitution guarantees that all people shall be equally protected by the laws of the country. It means that the State will treat people in the same circumstances alike.

- **Social equality and equal access to public areas**: Article 15 of the constitution states that no person shall be discriminated on the basis of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth. Every person shall have equal access to public places like public parks, museums, wells, bathing ghats and temples etc..

- **Equality in matters of public employment**: Article 16 the State cannot discriminate against anyone in the matters of employment. There are some exceptions. The Parliament may enact a law stating that certain jobs can be filled only by applicants who are domiciled in the area. This may be meant for posts that require knowledge of the locality and language of the area. The State may also reserve posts for members of backward classes, scheduled castes or scheduled tribes

- **Abolition of Titles**: Article 18 of the constitution prohibits the State from conferring any titles. "Citizens of India cannot accept titles from a foreign State. However, Military and academic distinctions can be conferred on the citizens of India. The awards of Bharat Ratna and Padma Vibhushan cannot be used by the recipient as a title and do not..

#### Right to freedom

The right to freedom in Article 19 guarantees the following six freedoms:

- Freedom of speech and expression
- Freedom to assemble peacefully without
- The Freedom to form associations or unions or co-operative societies
- Freedom to move freely throughout the territory of India.
- Freedom to reside and settle in any part of the territory of India Article 370 restricts citizens from other Indian states and Kashmiri women who marry men from other states from purchasing land or property in Jammu & Kashmir
- Freedom to practice any profession or to carry on any occupation
- Article 21A gives education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years in such manner as the State may, by law, determine.

.. In the interest of morality and public order, the government can also impose restrictions. However, the right to life and personal liberty cannot be suspended..

#### Right to Information (RTI)
Right to Information has been given the status of a fundamental right under Article 19(1) of the Constitution in 2005. Article 19 (1) under which every citizen has freedom of speech and expression and have the right to know how the government works, what role does it play, what are its functions and so on:

Right against exploitation

Child labour and Beggar (unfree labour) is prohibited under Right against exploitation.

- The right against exploitation, given in Articles 23 and 24, provides for two provisions, namely the abolition of trafficking in human beings and Beggar (forced labour), and abolition of employment of children below the age of 14 years in dangerous jobs like factories, mines, etc

Right to freedom of religion

Right to freedom of religion, covered in Articles 25, 26, 27 and 28, provides religious freedom to all citizens of India. According to the Constitution, all religions are equal before the State and no religion shall be given preference over the other. Citizens are free to preach, practice and propagate any religion of their choice.

Right to life

The constitution guarantees the right to life and personal liberty, which in turn cites specific provisions in which these rights are applied and enforced:

- Article 20, no one can be awarded punishment which is more than what the law of the land prescribes at that time.
- Protection of life and personal liberty is also stated under right to life and personal liberty. Article 21 declares that no citizen can be denied his life and liberty except by law. Attempted suicide being interpreted as a crime has seen many debates. The court repealed section 309 of the Indian penal code, under which people attempting suicide could face prosecution and prison terms of up to one year.
- Rights of a person arrested under ordinary circumstances is laid down in the right to life and personal liberty. No one can be arrested without being told the grounds for his arrest. If arrested, the person has the right to defend himself by a lawyer of his choice. Also an arrested citizen has to be brought before the nearest magistrate within 24 hours.

Cultural and Educational rights

As India is a country of many languages, religions, and cultures, the Constitution provides special measures, in Articles 29 and 30, to protect the rights of the minorities. Any community that has a language and a script of its own has the right to conserve and develop it. No citizen can be discriminated against for admission in State or State aided institutions.

All minorities, religious or linguistic, can set up their own educational institutions to preserve and develop their own culture. In granting aid to institutions, the State cannot discriminate against any institution on the basis of the fact that it is administered by a minority institution. But the right to administer does not mean that the State cannot interfere in case of maladministration.

Right to constitutional remedies

Right to constitutional remedies [Article 32 to 35] empowers the citizens to move to a court of law in case of any denial of the fundamental rights. For instance, in case of imprisonment, any citizen can ask the court to see if it is according to the provisions of the law of the country by lodging a PIL. If the court finds that it is not, the person will have to be freed. This procedure of asking the courts to preserve or safeguard the citizens' fundamental rights can be done in various ways. The courts can issue various kinds of writs protecting rights of the citizens. These writs are:

- habeas corpus
- mandamus
- Prohibition
- quo warranto
- certiorari

Dr. B. R. Ambedkar rightly declared Right to constitutional remedies as "the heart and soul" of Indian constitution. When a national or state emergency is declared, this right is suspended by the central government.

Right to Privacy (Not an independent Right)

The right to privacy is protected as an intrinsic part of the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 and as a part of the freedoms guaranteed by Part III of the Constitution. It protects the inner sphere of the individual from interference from both State, and non-State actors and allows the individuals to make autonomous life choices.
### Parts of the Constitution and What They Deal with

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### THE UNION

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### Some Important Articles of the Constitution of India

Let us now look at some of the important articles of the Constitution of India and what they deal with.

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HERITAGE QUIZ

EASTERN COAST- PORTS

- India is one of the biggest peninsulas in the World and has approx. 7517 kms coastline. The major ports are controlled by the central Government through Major Port Trust Act, 1963 whereas medium and minor ports (part of concurrent lists) are managed and administered by respective states.
- There are seven major port located on the east coast of India i.e. Tuticorin (Tamil Nadu), Chennai (Tamil Nadu), Ennore (Tamil Nadu), Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh), Paradip (Odisha), Haldia & Kolkata (West Bengal), and Port Blair (Andaman & Nicobar Island).

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ennore (Tamil Nadu)</td>
<td>1. It was established near Chennai to reduce traffic on Chennai port. 2. It is the first corporatized port of India.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh)</td>
<td>1. It is the deepest port of India. 2. It handles the export of iron ore to Japan. 3. It is natural harbour and protected the Monsoon spells by hill, named ‘Dolphin Nose’. 4. It is also famous for building and repairing of ships.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paradip (Odisha)</td>
<td>1. It is a natural harbour and handles export of iron and aluminium to south-east Asian countries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haldia &amp; Kolkata (West Bengal)</td>
<td>1. These are riverine ports established on Hugli river. 2. These handles trade with South-East Asian countries. 3. It is connect with Ocean based dockyard of Kolkata i.e. Diamond Harbour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Port Blair (Andaman &amp; Nicobar Island)</td>
<td>1. It is 13th major port of India. 2. It has 23 ports territorial jurisdiction including East Island Port, Diglipur Port (Carnwassis), Mayabunder Port, Elphinston Harbour, Rangat Port, Havelock Port and Neil Island port.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are 13 and 200 minor/intermediate ports in India which came under the ambit of Major Ports Trust Act, 1963.

RIVERS OF SOUTH INDIA

Mahanadi
The Mahanadi is a major river in East-central India.
- It originates in the Sihava mountains of Chhattisgarh and flows its major course through the state of Orissa (Odisha). This river deposits more silt than any other in the Indian subcontinent.
- Mahanadi flows through cities Sambalpur, Cuttack and Banki.

Godavari
The Godavari River covers the second longest course in India after the Ganga.
- The river originates at Triambakeshwar in Maharashtra, and together with its tributaries (Pravara, Indravati, Maner Sabri etc.) flows through the states of Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa (Odisha), Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Puducherry, to finally flow in to the Bay of Bengal. Thanks to its long course, the river is described as Dakshina Ganga.

Krishna River
The Krishna is the third longest river in India with a length of about 1300 kms.
- Originating from Maharashtra's Mahabaleshwar region it flows through Karnataka, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh to finally pour into the Bay of Bengal.

Kaveri River
The Kaveri (Cauvery) is a major river in Southern India and originates in Kogadu, Karnataka in the form of a spring at Brahmagiri Hill at Talakaveri.
- Also known as the Ganges of the South, it is one of the holiest rivers in South India. Kaveri River widens as many tributaries such as Hemavati, Moyari, Shirma, Arakavi, Honnaluole, Kabini, Bhavani, Noyil and Amaravati join it.
- The slithers about 800 kilometers across the three states, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamilnadu, slightly touching Pudducherry and drains in to the Bay of Bengal.

Narmada and Tapi or Tapti
The Narmada and the Tapti are the only major rivers that flow into the Arabian Sea.
- The total length of Narmada flowing through the states of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Gujarat equals to 1312 kms. Amarkantak in Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh is the place of origin of Narmada.
- Flowing mainly through Central india, from eastward direction to westward, Narmada merges into the Arabian Sea.
- The Tapti follows a parallel course to the South of Narmada, flowing through the states of Maharashtra and Gujarat on its way into the Gulf of Kambhat. Its three major tributaries are Parna, Gima and Panjhra.

ISLANDS OF INDIA

Indian Islands.
- The major islands groups of India are Andaman and Nicobar Archipelago (A chain of islands similar in origin) in Bay of Bengal and Lakshadweep islands in Arabian Sea.
- Andaman and Nicobar Islands were formed due to collision between Indian Plate and Burma Minor Plate [part of Eurasian Plate][Similar to formation of Himalayas].
Andaman and Nicobar Islands are southward extension of Arakan Yoma range [Myanmar][Arakan Yoma in itself is an extension of Purvanchal Hills].

Lakshadweep Islands are coral islands. These islands are a part Reunion Hotspot volcanism. [Both these concepts are explained in previous posts].

Other than these two groups there are islands in Indo-Gangetic Delta [they are more a part of delta than islands] and between India and Sri Lanka [Remnants of Adams Bridge; formed due to submergence].

**Andaman and Nicobar Islands**

This archipelago is composed of 265 big and small islands [203 Andaman islands + 62 Nicobar Islands]. *Numbers are just for understanding. You need not remember trivial facts.*

- The Andaman and Nicobar islands extend from 6° 45' N to 13° 45' N and from 92° 10' E to 94° 15' E for a distance of about 590 km.
- The Andaman islands are divided into three main islands i.e. North, Middle and South.
- **Duncan passage** separates Little Andaman from South Andaman.
- The Great Andaman group of islands in the north is separated by the Ten Degree Channel from the Nicobar group in the south.
- **Port Blair**, the capital of Andaman Nicobar Islands lies in the South Andaman.
- Among the Nicobar islands, the Great Nicobar is the largest. It is the southernmost and is very close to Sumatra island of Indonesia. The Car Nicobar is the northernmost.
- Most of these islands are made of tertiary sandstone, limestone and shale resting on basic and ultrabasic volcanoes [Similar to Himalayas].
- **THE BARREN AND NARCONDAM ISLANDS**, north of Port Blair, are volcanic islands [these are the only active volcanoes in India]. *There are no active volcanoes in main land India.*
- Some of the islands are fringed with coral reefs. Many of them are covered with thick forests. Most of the islands are mountainous.
- **Saddle peak** (737 m) in North Andaman is the highest peak.

**Lakshadweep Islands**

- In the Arabian Sea, there are three types of islands.
  1. **Aindivi Islands** (consisting of six main islands of Amini, Keltan, Chetlat, Kadmat, Bitra and Perumul Par). *[don't have to remember all these names]*
  2. **Laccadive Islands** (consisting of five major islands of Androth, Kalpeni, Kavaratti, Pitti and Suheli Par) and
  3. **Minicoy Island**.

- At present these islands are collectively known as Lakshadweep.
- The Lakshadweep Islands are a group of 25 small islands.
- They are widely scattered about 200-500 km south-west of the Kerala coast.
- **Amendivi Islands** are the northernmost while the **Minicoy island** is the southernmost.

- All are tiny islands of coral origin [Atoll] and are surrounded by fringing reefs.
- The largest and the most advanced is the **Minicoy island** with an area of 4.53 sq km.
- Most of the islands have low elevation and do not rise more than five metre above sea level (Extremely Vulnerable to sea level change).
- Their topography is flat and relief features such as hills, streams, valleys, etc. are absent.

**Himalayan Range**

- The Himalayas form a mountain range in **Asia**, separating the plains of the **Indian subcontinent** from the **Tibetan Plateau**. The range has many of the Earth's highest peaks, including the highest, Mount Everest.
- Lifted by the subduction of the Indian tectonic plate under the Eurasian Plate, the Himalayan mountain range runs west-northwest to east-southeast in an arc 2,400 km (1,500 mi) long.
- Its western anchor, **Nanga Parbat**, lies just south of the northernmost bend of Indus river. Its eastern anchor, **Namcha Barwa**, is just west of the great bend of the Yarlung Tsangpo River (upper stream of the Brahmaputra River).
- The Himalayan range is bordered on the northwest by the Karakoram and the Hindu Kush ranges. To the north, the chain is separated from the Tibetan Plateau by a 50–60 km (31–37 mi) wide tectonic valley called the Indus-Tsangpo Suture.
- Towards the south the arc of the Himalaya is ringed by the very low Indo-Gangetic Plain. The range varies in width from 350 km (220 mi) in the west (Pakistan) to 150 km (93 mi) in the east (Arunachal Pradesh).
- In the middle of the great curve of the Himalayan mountains lie the 8,000 m (26,000 ft) peaks of Dhaulagiri and Annapurna in Nepal, separated by the Kali Gandaki Gorge.
- The gorge splits the Himalayas into Western and Eastern sections both ecologically and orographically – the pass at the head of the Kali Gandaki, the *Kora La* is the lowest point on the ridgeline between Everest and K2 (the highest peak of Pakistan).
- The highest mountain in Bhutan is **Gangkhar Puensum**, which is also a strong candidate for the highest unclimbed mountain in the world.
- Going west from Dhaulagiri, Western Nepal is somewhat remote and lacks major high mountains, but is home to **Rara Lake**, the largest lake in Nepal.

**Endangered Species of India**

*1. Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros*  
   - The Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros, alias Indian Rhinoceros, are listed as one of the vulnerable species by the International Union for Conservation of Nature.
   - The animal can be found in India and Nepal, particularly in the foothills of the Himalayas. Poaching of horns is an important reason for the decline in the number of the Indian Rhinoceros.
   - There has been a dramatic increase in the numbers of Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros since 1975, but there is a consistent threat due to an increase in hunting cases.
   - With at least half of the total population, India’s Kaziranga National Park remains the key reserve for this species. More efforts should be undertaken for the conservation of the Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros.

**Places where Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros can be spotted:**

Kaziranga National Park, Dudhwa Tiger Reserve, Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary

**Do You Know?**

- The white rhino is the largest rhino species and the largest land mammal after the elephant.
- During the Mughal Era, the rulers used to use Greater One-horned Rhino in fights against elephants as entertainment. The rhinos would often win. Thankfully, this sport is no longer practiced or permitted.
2. Nilgiri Tahr
   • The Nilgiri tahr is a threatened mountain ungulate clinging on to the tropical rainforest of the Western Ghats. The endangered species have a stocky coat with a bristly mane, curved horns, and coarse and short fur.
   • Considered as the state animal of Tamil Nadu, the Nilgiri Tahr is facing a major threat in the Western Ghats.
   • Thanks to continuous poaching activities and Eucalyptus cultivation hampering its habitat, the Nilgiri Tahr population is continuously decreasing.

**Places where Nilgiri tahr can be spotted**
Eravikulam National Park, Nilgiri Hills, Anaimalai Hills, Periyar National Park, Palni Hills

**Do You Know?**
As per the current survey, there is a total population of 3,000 Nilgiri Tahr in India, inclusive of smaller species which haven’t been documented in the past.

3. Bengal Tiger
   • Considered as the national animal of two major countries – India and Bangladesh, the Bengal tiger is justifiably referred to as the ‘Big Cat’. Around 70% of the world’s wild tigers live in India.
   • **Tigers are fast vanishing** due to human interference and poaching cases. The natural habitat of tigers in India – tropical evergreen forests, deciduous forests, mangrove swamps, thorn forests and grass jungles – has almost disappeared outside the reserves.
   • Altogether, there are 48 tiger reserves in India. But one place that has captured the fancy of major wildlife aficionados is the Jim Corbett National Park. There are currently 2,226 tigers left in India.

**Places where Royal Bengal Tigers can be spotted:**
Tadoba National Park, Ranthambore National Park, Sundarbans National Park, Sariska Tiger Reserve, Jim Corbett National Park, Bandhavgarh National Park

**Do You Know?**
A tiger roar can be heard more than a mile away

4. Asiatic Lion
   • Gujarat in India is home to a large population of Asiatic lion aka the Indian lion or Persian lion.
   • The King of the Jungle reigns supreme in India. As per the facts presented by WWF, the Asiatic lion can be only found in India.
   • The 1,400 sq km Sasan Gir Wildlife Sanctuary in Gujarat is the last royal refuge of the Asiatic lion. Only 200 or so Asiatic lions exist in the wild.

**Places where Asiatic Lion can be spotted:**
Gir Forest National Park, Gujarat

**Do you Know?**
The Asiatic lions are renowned as the second largest feline species in the world, after the tigers.

5. Black Buck
   • Blackbucks, the Indian antelopes, are found in abundance in the plains, grasslands and scrub of India.
   • Activities like hunting, poaching, habitat destruction, overgrazing and inbreeding has led to a drastic downward fluctuation in the blackbuck population.
   • Another reason why the blackbuck population is immensely decreasing is the large-scale conversion of their habitats into agriculture fields and poaching. Other than India, Blackbuck can be found in Nepal and Pakistan.

**Places where Black Buck can be spotted**

6. Lion Tailed Macaque
   • Running along the west coast of India, the mountains of the Western Ghats are home to a rare species, the Lion Tailed Macaque.
   • The Lion Tailed Macaque can be found in the tiny, isolated pockets of the tropical forest in the Western Ghats.
   • With only 2,900 species in zoo and wildlife reserves, the Lion Tailed Macaque is one of the most endangered animals in the world.
   • The silent feature of the macaque and its appearance are its outstanding characteristics. The Lion Tailed Macaque is an old world monkey and is one of the 16 macaque species.

**Places where Lion Tailed Macaque can be spotted**
Silent Valley National Park in Kerala, Papanasam part of the Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu and Sirsi-Honnavara rainforests of North-Western Ghats in Karnataka.
   • The Lion-tailed Macaque is so well adapted to its forest home that it simply cannot adjust to the new habitats being created by human intrusion.

7. Snow Leopard
   • Profoundly found in the steep and rocky region of the Himalayas, the snow leopard is the descendant of the wild cat and panther families.
   • Snow leopards have thick, long fur, and their skin color varies from yellowing tan to smoky gray. The Snow leopard can be easily identified by its tail as it is 80-105 cm long.
   • There are 6,000 snow leopards in the world, but its population is gradually declining. With the loss of habitat and widespread hunting, there has been a 20% reduction in snow leopard population over the past 20 years.
   • In addition, snow leopards are illegally hunted in the fur trade for making luxury coats and their bones are sought after for traditional Asian medicine.
Places where Snow Leopard can be spotted:
Hemis National Park, Ladakh; Nanda Devi National Park, Uttarakhand; Dibang Wildlife Sanctuary, Arunachal Pradesh; Kibber Wildlife Sanctuary, Lahaul Spiti, Himachal Pradesh; Pin Valley National Park, Lahaul Spiti, Himachal Pradesh; Great Himalayan National Park, Kullu, Himachal Pradesh.

Here are some of the well-known endangered species of plants in India that are in urgent need of conservation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Park</th>
<th>Plant Species</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Amentotaxus assamica</strong> <em>(Assam catkin yew)</em> – Arunachal Pradesh</td>
<td>Coniferous trees found only in the Delei Valley and Turoo Hills of Arunachal Pradesh. Low rates of reproduction have endangered the plant species.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Ilex khasiana</strong> – Shillong (Meghalaya)</td>
<td>Shrubs found only in Shillong Peak in Meghalaya. Only about three to four plants remaining.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Diospyros celibica</strong> <em>(Ebony)</em> – Karnataka</td>
<td>Well-known for its dark and high quality wood. Highly sought-after for furniture and woodwork. Indiscriminate cutting has depleted the region covered by these trees.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Pterocarpus Santalinus</strong> <em>(Red Sandalwood)</em> – Eastern Ghats</td>
<td>This is a rare form of sandalwood found only in southeastern India. Well-known for its medicinal properties. Endangered due to logging and loss of habitat.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Chlorophytum tuberosum</strong> <em>(Musli)</em> – Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>A flowering plant found only in the interiors of Africa and India. It is a well-known Ayurvedic medicine that gives vitality and strength. Indiscriminate harvesting has endangered the plant.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Kingiodendron Pinnatum</strong> <em>(Malabar Mahagony)</em> – Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>Another tree best known for its wood. Logging, exploitation and destruction of habitat have led to low reproduction.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Actinodaphne lawsoni</strong> – Kerala</td>
<td>A canopy or sub-canopy tree that grows in high altitude forests. Harvested extensively for its medicinal properties. It is endemic and endangered due to habitat loss.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 42nd AMENDMENT

1. This amendment was enacted by Indian National Congress government headed by Indira Gandhi.

2. It laid down fundamental duties of Indian citizen to the nation.

3. It is called a "mini-Constitution" or the "Constitution of Indira".

4. This amended the Preamble to our constitution and changed the description of India from "sovereign democratic republic" to a “sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic, republic"

5. It also changed the words "unity of the nation" to "unity and integrity of the nation".

### 61st AMENDMENT

1. It is known as The Constitution (Sixty-first Amendment) Act, 1988.

2. It lowered the voting age of elections to the Lok Sabha and to the Legislative Assemblies of States from 21 years to 18 years.

3. States legislatures that do not ratify this amendment are, Jammu & Kashmir, Nagaland, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Tripura.

### 73rd AMENDMENT

1. Panchayati Raj system was first adopted by the state of Rajasthan in Nagaur district on Oct 2 1959,

2. In India, on 24th April 1993, the Constitutional (73rd amendment) Act 1992 came into force to provide constitutional status to the Panchayati Raj institutions.

3. This was first started in the tribal areas of eight states, namely: Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, and Rajasthan in 1996

4. It provide a three-tier systems of Panchayati Raj for all states having a population of over 2 million,

5. This amendment contains provision to appoint a State Finance Commission to make recommendations regarding the financial powers of the Panchayats and to constitute a District Planning Committee.

### ARTICLE 370

Article 370 of the Indian constitution is an article that gives autonomous status to the state of Jammu and Kashmir.

The State was allowed to have its own Constitution.

Central legislative powers over the State were limited, at the time of framing, to the three
subjects of defence, foreign affairs and communications.

1. Presidential order of 1954:

   a) Article 35A was added to the constitution empowering the state legislature to legislate on the privileges of permanent residents with regard to immovable property, settlement in the state and employment.

   b) The fundamental rights of the Indian constitution were extended to the state.

   c) The jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India was extended to the State.

   d) The Central Government was given power to declare national emergency in the event of external aggression. However, its power to do so for internal disturbances could be exercised only with the concurrence of the State Government.

**ARTICLE 352**

1. National emergency can be declared on the basis of external aggression or armed rebellion in the whole of India or a part of its territory under Article 352.

2. The President can declare such an emergency only on the basis of a written request by the Cabinet headed by the Prime Minister.

3. During a national emergency, many Fundamental Rights of Indian citizens can be suspended. The six freedoms under Right to Freedom are automatically suspended.

4. A national emergency modifies the federal system of government to a unitary one by granting Parliament the power to make laws on the 66 subjects of the State List.

5. During an emergency, the term of the Lok Sabha can be successively extended by intervals of up to one year, but not beyond six months after the state of emergency has been revoked.

**MOUNTAIN RAILWAYS**

* The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway, the Nilgiri Mountain Railway, and the Kalka–Shimla Railway, are collectively designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site under the name Mountain Railways of India.

**The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway,**

1. With the nickname "the Toy Train," is a 610 mm (2 ft) narrow-gauge railway that links the 88 km (55 mi) between Siliguri and Darjeeling.

2. Northeast Frontier Railway Zone. Operates the Darjeeling Himalayan railway

3. In 1999, the Darjeeling line was the first to be recognized by UNESCO and placed on the World Heritage List.

**The Nilgiri Mountain Railway**

1. It is a 46 km (29 mi) metre gauge single-line railway connecting Mettupalayam with the hill station of Udaga mandalam.

2. The Nilgiri is the only rack railway in India
3. It is the oldest and steepest track uses rack and pinion technology.

4. The Nilgiri Mountain Railway was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in July 2005.

**The Kalka–Shimla Railway**

1. Runs between Kalka and Shimla. The railway line was constructed by the Delhi–Ambala–Kalka Railway Company, beginning in 1898 in the Siwalik Hills, and was completed in 1903.

2. It has 103 tunnels and 864 bridges.

3. It was declared as World Heritage Site in 2008.

## UNION TERRITORIES

1. Union territories are federal territories governed directly by the union government (central government), hence it is named as Union Territory.

2. Union territories which are without their own legislatures:
   - Chandigarh (Formed in 1966)
   - Dadra and Nagar Haveli (formed in 1961)
   - Daman and Diu (formed in 1987)
   - Lakshadweep (formed in 1956)
   - Andaman and Nicobar Islands (formed in 1956)

Union territories with their own legislature with elected members and a chief minister. Puducherry (1954), NTC of Delhi (1956)

3. Delhi and Puducherry are two of the union territories have representation in the upper house of the Indian Parliament, the Rajya Sabha.

4. The Union territories are administered by the President through an administrator, who is appointed by him.

5. In Andaman and Nicobar islands, Puducherry and Delhi, the administrator is called Lieutenant Governor. In Chandigarh, Dadara & Nagar, Daman & Diu and Lakshadweep he/she is known as Administrator.

6. As per the provisions of the Article 239AA, the state government of Delhi can make laws on all subjects in the state list or concurrent list except the following subjects of the state list: Public order, police, Land, offences against the laws jurisdiction power
THE NATIONAL MOVEMENTS (Important developments during the phases of national movements)

1. Swaraj party was founded by CR Das and Motilal Nehru in 1922.

2. Vishva Bharti University was started by Rabindranath Tagore in 1922.

3. Communist Party was founded by MN Roy in 1925.

4. Simon Commission was appointed by Sir John Simon in 1927. Indian leader Lala Lajpat Rai was severely beaten at Lahore while protesting against The Simon Commission. He died in 1928.

6. The Civil Disobedience movement started by Gandhiji with the Dandi March for Salt Satyagraha on April 6th, 1930.

7. Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Chandrashekhar Azad assassinated ASP John Saunders and threw bomb into central Assembly. Due to this reason they were hanged on 23rd March, 1931.

8. An agreement between BR Ambedkar and Mahatama Gandhi was signed in 1932 called as Poona pact. The Pact gave depressed classes reserved seats in provincial and central legislative councils.

9. On the recommendations of Linlithgow Committee, the government of India Act 1935 was passed by British Parliament.

10. Indian National Army was formed by Indian nationalist Rash Bihari Bose, Mohan Singh Deb in 1942 in Southeast Asia during World War II.

ABOUT THE WESTERN GHATS

1. The hill ranges of the Western Ghats, a global biodiversity hotspot, extend along the west coast of India from the river Tapti in the north to the southern tip of India.

2. Their positioning makes the Western Ghats biologically rich and biogeographically unique - Many species are endemic, such as the Nilgiri tahr (*Hemitragus hylocrius*) and the lion-tailed macaque (*Macaca silenus*). In fact, 50 per cent of India’s amphibians and 67 per cent of fish species are endemic to this region.
The Western Ghats include a diversity of ecosystems ranging from tropical wet evergreen forests to montane grasslands containing numerous medicinal plants and important genetic resources such as the wild relatives of grains, fruit and spices.

The Western Ghats perform important hydrological and watershed functions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PASSES IN HIMALAYAS:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Banihal</strong> Pass is a pass across the Pir Panjal Range at 2,832 m (9,291 ft) maximum elevation. This mountain range separates the Kashmir valley in the Indian state Jammu and Kashmir from the outer Himalaya and plains to the south</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. The road from Jammu to Srinagar traversed Banihal pass until 1956 when Jawahar tunnel was constructed under Banihal pass. The road now passes through the tunnel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. The Pir Panjal Railway Tunnel or Banihal railway tunnel is an 11.215 km (7 mile) railway tunnel located in Pir Panjal Range of middle Himalayas in Jammu and Kashmir, India, north of Banihal town.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rohtang Pass</strong> is a high mountain pass on the eastern Pir Panjal Range of the Himalayas around 51 km (32 mi) from Manali. It connects the Kullu Valley with the Lahul and Spiti Valleys of Himachal Pradesh, India. Manali-Leh Highway, a part of NH 21, transverses Rohtang Pass.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Rohtang literally means, 'pile of corpses', due to people dying in bad weather trying to cross the pass.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Shipki La is a mountain pass and border post on the India-Tibet border. The river Sutlej enters India (from Tibet) through this pass. It is an offshoot of the ancient Silk Road.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MULTIPURPOSE PROJECTS OF INDIA**

1. **Damodar Valley Project:**
The aggressive Damodar, during the rainy season, with all its surplus water used to engulf the entire region. Periodic and successive flood was so disastrous that Damodar was aptly known as ‘Curse of Bengal’.

2. **The Tungabhadra Project:**
To facilitate power and irrigation to the extensive tract of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, Tungabhadra project was launched.

3. **The Rihand Project:**
First of its kind in upper Ganga-Yamuna plain. In Mirzapur, a large reservoir, popularly known as Gobind Ballav Pant Sagar, was constructed. The Rihand project is one of the few costly and ambitious multi-purpose projects constructed after Independence.
4. The Gandak Project:

The river Gandak, after debouching from Nepal Himalaya, has been tapped at Champaran in Bihar in its left bank and Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh in its right bank. This is also a joint venture comprising Nepal and India. **Major features of the projects are:** (a) A large barrage was constructed near Balmikinagar in Bihar. (b) Two canals were constructed in India.