

ABBREVIATIONS

COFEPOSA	:	Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Act
CARE	:	Co-operative for American Relief Everywhere
CHOGM	:	Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting
CSO	:	Central Statistical Organisation
CVRDE	:	Combat Vehicles Research Development Establishment
EPZ	:	Export Processing Zone
ESMA	:	Essential Services Maintenance Act
FEMA	:	Foreign Exchange Management Act
GATE	:	Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering
HUDCO	:	Housing and Urban Development Corporation

SUPERLATIVES

Largest delta	:	Sunderban
Largest diamond	:	The Cullinan
Largest archipelago	:	Indonesia
Smallest bird	:	Humming Bird
Largest library	:	United States Library of Congress, Washington (more than 59,000,000 items)
Largest sea bird	:	Albatross
Largest sea	:	South China Sea
Hottest place	:	Azizia (Libya, Africa 58 ^o c (136 ^o F))
Largest peninsula	:	Arabia
Largest museum	:	American Museum of Natural History, New York City
Longest mountain range	:	Andes, South America - 8,800 km long
Deepest lake	:	Baikal (Siberia); Average depth 701 metre
Largest gulf	:	Gulf of Mexico
Largest desert	:	Sahara (Africa)
Largest creature	:	Blue Whale

PARLIAMENTS

COUNTRY	PARLIAMENT
USA	- Congress
Sweden	- Riksdag
Russia	- Duma
Japan	- Diet
Denmark	- Folketing
Israel	- kneset
China	- National Peoples Congress
Iran	- Majlis
Nepal	- National Panchayat
Poland	- Sejm
Afghanistan	- Shora
Norway	- Storting
Spain	- Cortes
Switzerland	- Federal Assembly

Branches of Science

- Eugenics** : is the study of ways in which the physical and mental characteristic of the human race may be improved. Modern elimination of genetic diseases.
- Cryogenics** : The science dealing with the production, control and application of very low temperature.
- Metallurgy** : It is the process of extracting metals from their ores.
- Hydrotherapy** : The cure of disease by the internal and external use of water.
- Heliotherapy** : It is the method of treating diseases by sunlight.
- Ballistics** : It is the science of launching projectiles into space.

Years

- 1885** : Formation of Indian National Congress
- 1905** : Partition of Bengal by Lord Curzon
- 1906** : Muslim League was formed at Dacca
- 1911** : Partition of Bengal was cancelled by Lord Hardinge
- 1911** : India's Capital was Shifted from Calcutta to Delhi
- 1917** : Gandhiji's Champaran campaign launched
- 1919** : Jallianwala Bagh Massacre
- 1919** : Khilafat Movement
- 1924** : Communist Party of India was formed
- 1929** : Poorna Swaraj resolution at Lahore session
- 1930** : Gandhiji's Dandi March
- 1932** : Third Round Table Conference
- 1937** : Provincial Autonomy
- 1942** : Quit India Movement
- 1945** : Trial of INA at Red Fort
- 1946** : British Cabinet Mission visited India
- 1948** : Death of Mahatma Gandhi
- 1950** : India becomes a Republic

Wildlife sanctuaries and national parks

- Hazaribagh : Bihar
- Sivapuri National Park : Madhya Pradesh
- Kanha National Park : Madhya Pradesh
- Jim Corbet National Park : Uttaranchal
- Manas Sanctuary : Assam
- Ghana Bird Sanctuary : Rajasthan
- Bandipur Sanctuary : Karnataka
- Dachigam Sanctuary : Kashmir
- Chandra Prabha Sanctuary : Uttar Pradesh
- Kaziranga Sanctuary : Assam
- Periyar Sanctuary : Kerala
- Bharatpur : Rajasthan
- Nagerhole : Karnataka
- Tadoba National Park : Maharashtra
- Gir Lion Sanctuary : Gujarat

First in India

Actress to win Padma Shri Award	— Nargis Dutt (1958).
Bharat Ratna Award winner	— C. Rajagopalachari (1954).
Miss World	— Reita Faria (1966).
Field Marshal	— S.H.F.J. Manekshaw (1973).
Elected President	— S. Radhakrishnan (1962-67).
Cosmonaut	— Rakesh Sharma (1984).
Chief Justice of India	— Harilal J. Kania (1950-51).
Chief Election Commissioner	— Sukumar Sen (1950-58).
Chairman of Rajya Sabha	— S.V. Krishnamoorthy (1952).
Woman to swim the English Channel	— Arati Saha (1959).
Woman Jnanpith Award winner	— Ashapura Devi (1976).
Woman IPS officer	— Kiran Bedi (1974).
Woman Governor	— Sarojini Naidu (1947).

National Laboratories

National Physical Laboratory	:	New Delhi
National Institute of Oceanography	:	Panaji (Goa)
National Environment Engineering Research Institute (NEERI)	:	Nagpur
Indian Institute of Petroleum	:	Dehra Dun (Uttaranchal)
National Chemical Laboratory	:	Pune
Central Road Research Institute	:	New Delhi
Central Mining Research Station	:	Dhanbad (Bihar)
Central Drug Research Institute	:	Lucknow (UP)
Central Building Research Institute	:	Roorkee (UP)
Central Food Technological Research Institute	:	Mysore
Central Leather Research Institute	:	Chennai
National Aeronautical Laboratory	:	Bangalore

Sports Terms

Scoop	-	Hockey
Baton	-	Relay (Athletics)
Fault	-	Badminton/Tennis
Punch	-	Boxing
Ashes	-	Cricket
Chinaman	-	Cricket
Off side	-	Football/Hockey
Bull's eye	-	Shooting
Deuce	-	Tennis
Scissors	-	Wrestling
Volley	-	Tennis

Malayalam Books and Authors

ഖസാക്കിന്റെ ഇതിഹാസം	-	ഒ.വി. വിജയൻ
അവകാശികൾ	-	വിലാസിനി (എം.കെ. മേനോൻ)
അഗ്നിസാക്ഷി	-	ലളിതാംബിക അന്തർജ്ജനം
ഒരു ദേശത്തിന്റെ കഥ	-	എസ്.കെ. പൊറ്റക്കാട്
ഐതിഹ്യമാല	-	കൊട്ടാരത്തിൽ ശങ്കുണ്ണി
മയ്യഴിപ്പുഴയുടെ തീരങ്ങളിൽ	-	എം. മുകുന്ദൻ
മാർത്താണ്ഡവർമ്മ	-	സി.വി. രാമൻപിള്ള
യന്ത്രം, ആറാം വിരൽ	-	മലയാറ്റൂർ രാമകൃഷ്ണൻ
കയർ, രണ്ടിടങ്ങളി	-	തകഴി ശിവശങ്കരപ്പിള്ള
തത്ത്വമസി	-	സുകുമാർ അഴീക്കോട്
മയൂര സന്ദേശം	-	കേരളവർമ്മ വലിയകോയിത്തമ്പുരാൻ
അരനാഴികനേരം	-	പാറപ്പുറം
വീണപ്പൂവ്, നളിനി	-	കുമാരനാശാൻ
കാലം, നാലുകെട്ട്, അസുരവിത്ത്	-	എം.ടി. വാസുദേവൻ നായർ
അമ്പലമണികൾ, രാത്രിമഴ	-	സുഗതകുമാരി
ഉമ്മാച്ചു, സുന്ദരികളും സുന്ദരന്മാരും	-	ഉറുബ് (പി.സി. കുട്ടികൃഷ്ണൻ)
ദാരതപര്യടനം	-	കുട്ടികൃഷ്ണമാരാർ
കൃഷ്ണഗാഥ	-	ചെറുശ്ശേരി
ബാല്യകാലസഖി	-	വൈക്കം മുഹമ്മദ് ബഷീർ

COUNTRIES WITH CHANGED NAMES

New Name

Old Name

Iraq		Mesopotamia
Iran		Persia
Zimbabwe	-	Rhodesia
Malaysia	-	Malaya
Ghana	-	Gold Coast
Surinam	-	Dutch Guiana
Myanmar	-	Burma
Guyana	-	British Guiana

COUNTRIES WITH ALTERNATE NAMES

Japan		Nippon
Taiwan	-	Formosa
India	-	Bharat

FIRST IN THE WORLD

Woman to reach North Pole	:	Ann Bancroft
Test Tube Baby	:	Louise Joy Brown
Woman Prime Minister		
of a country	:	Sirimavo Bandaranaike (1960)
Woman President of a country	:	Maria Estela Peron (Argentina)
Men on Mt. Everest		
without Oxygen	:	Reinhold Messner and Peter Habeler (1978)

Foreigner to get Bharat Ratna	:	Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan
First Chinese pilgrim to visit India	:	Fahien
Englishman to receive Nobel Prize for Literature	:	Rudyard Kipling (1907)
Pope to visit India	:	Pope Paul VI
Woman to climb Mount Everest	:	Junko Taibei
Muslim invader of India	:	Mohammad-bin-Qasim

Quotations

A little knowledge is a dangerous thing	-	Alexander Pope
Man is by nature a political animal	-	Aristotle
Fools rush in where angels fear to tread	-	Alexander Pope
A thing of beauty is a joy for ever	-	John Keats
'Just as I would not like to be a slave, so I would not like to be a master'	-	Abraham Lincoln
I came, I saw, I conquered	-	Julius Caesar
Jai Jawan Jai Kisan	-	Lal Bahadur Shastri
Gharibi Hatawo	-	Indira Gandhi
Child is the father of man	-	Wordsworth

Pen names of Malayalam writers

Kovilan	-	V.V. Ayyappan
Omcheri	-	N. Narayana Pillai
Sanjayan	-	M.R. Nair
Cynic	-	M. Vasudevan
Nandanar	-	P.C. Gopalan
Thikkodian	-	P. Kunjananthan
Uroob	-	P.C. Kuttikrishnan
Vilasini	-	M.K. Menon
Mali	-	V. Madhavan Nair
Kakkanadan	-	George Vargheese

Important Years in World History

776 BC	:	First Olympiad in Greece
4 BC	:	Birth of Jesus Christ
AD 570	:	Birth of Prophet Mohammed
622	:	Beginning of Hijra Era
1215	:	Signing of Magna Carta
1492	:	Columbus discovered America
1688	:	Glorious Revolution in England
1776	:	American War of Independence
1789	:	French Revolution
1815	:	Battle of Waterloo
1848	:	Publication of Communist Manifesto
1918	:	First World War ended
1948	:	Myanmar and Sri Lanka achieved independence
1963	:	Nuclear Test Ban Treaty
1957	:	First artificial satellite was launched by Russia

Reforms and Events During British Period

First Census	-	Ripon
Communal Award	-	Wellington
Doctrine of Lapse	-	Dalhousie
Dyarchy	-	Chelmsford
INA Trial	-	Wavell
Jallianwala Bagh Tragedy	-	Chelmsford
Permanent Settlement	-	Cornwallis
Quit India	-	Linlithgow
Sepoy Mutiny	-	Canning
Subsidiary Alliance	-	Wellesley
Cabinet Mission	-	Wavell

Alternate names

Bard of Avon	-	William Shakespeare
Sultan of Beypore	-	Vaikom Mohammed Basheer
Man of Destiny	-	Napoleon Bonaparte
The Birdman of India	-	Salm Ali
Andhra Kesari	-	T. Prakasam
Lok Nayak	-	Jayaprakash Narayan
Father of Medicine	-	Hippocrates
Lady with the Lamp	-	Florence Nightingale
Poet's Poet	-	Edmund Spenser
Rajaji	-	C. Rajagopalachari
Deenabandhu	-	C.F. Andrews
Grand Old Man of India	-	Dadabhai Naoroji
Father of History	-	Herodotus
Father of Indian Industry	-	Jamshedji Tata
Father of Modern Chemistry	-	Joseph Priestley
Father of Indian Renaissance	-	Raja Ram Mohan Roy
Banga bandhu	-	Sheikh Mujibur Rahman
Tiger of the Snows	-	Tenzing Norgay
Indian Napoleon	-	Samudragupta
Man of Blood and Iron	-	Bismarck
Guruji	-	M.S. Golwalkar
Maid of Orleans	-	Joan of Arc
Father of Biology	-	Aristotle
Kerala Simham	-	Pazhassy Raja
Lokmanya	-	Bal Gangadhar Tilak
Nightingale of India	-	Sarojini Naidu

Diseases and affected body parts

PNEUMONIA	-	LUNGS
MENINGITIS	-	BRAIN AND SPINAL CORD
ECZEMA	-	SKIN
AIDS	-	IMMUNE SYSTEM
GOITRE	-	THYROID GLAND
JAUNDICE	-	LIVER
TRACHOMA	-	EYES
TUBERCULOSIS	-	LUNGS
MALARIA	-	SPLEEN
RHEUMATISM	-	JOINTS
DIABETES	-	PANCREAS
ARTHRITIS	-	INFLAMMATION OF JOINTS
CATARACT	-	EYES
DIPHTHERIA	-	THROAT
TYPHOID	-	INTESTINE; WHOLE BODY
PYORRHOEA	-	GUMS

Historically important places

Mount Blanc	:	It is the highest mountain peak in Europe in the Alps on the confines of Italy and France.
Yellow Sea	:	It is a sea between China and Korea
Lumbini	:	It is the birthplace of Buddha in Nepal.
Kremlin	:	It is in Moscow. It is the headquarters of Russia.
Pearl Harbour	:	US naval base in Hawaii Island. The Japanese attack of this brought them into the second world war.
Pentagon	:	It is in Washington. It is the defence head-quarters of USA.
Pisa	:	It is in Italy, well known for its leaning tower
Victoria Falls	:	It is on river Zambezi in Central Africa. It is 1,700 metres wide.
Potala	:	It is in Lhasa, the capital of Tibet. Dalai Lama's palace is situated here.
Monte Carlo	:	It is in France, famous for the luxurious resorts and world-renowned car rally.
Great Wall of China	:	2,400 km long wall constructed by the Chinese Emperor Shih Hwang Ti.

Important Days

April 23	:	World Book Day
May 8	:	Red Cross Day
May 11	:	National Technology Day
June 5	:	World Environment Day
September 16	:	Ozone Day
September 27	:	World Tourism Day
October 1	:	Day of the Elderly
October 16	:	World Food Day
October 30	:	World Thrift Day
December 1	:	World AIDS Day
December 10	:	Human Rights Day

The first to visit India

American President	-	Eisenhower
Russian Prime Minister	-	Bulganin

British Prime Minister	-	Harold Macmillan
British Monarch	-	King George V
Chinese Premier	-	Chou-En-lai
First Pope	-	Pope John Paul VI

Geographical Epithets

Bengal's Sorrow	-	Damodar River
Blue Mountains	-	Nilgiri Hills
City of Sky Scrapers	-	New York
City of Seven Hills	-	Rome
City of Dreaming Spires	-	Oxford
City of Palaces	-	Calcutta
City of Golden Gate	-	San Francisco
City of Magnificent Distances	-	Washington
Cockpit of Europe	-	Belgium
China's Sorrow	-	Hwang-Ho
Dark Continent	-	Africa
Emerald Island	-	Ireland
Eternal City	-	Rome
Forbidden City	-	Lhasa (Tibet)
Garden City	-	Chicago
Gate of Tears	-	Strait of Bab-el-Mandeb
Gateway of India	-	Mumbai
Gift of Nile	-	Egypt
Granite City	-	Aberdeen
Holy Land	-	Palestine
Herring Pond	-	Atlantic Ocean
Hermit Kingdom	-	Korea
Island Continent	-	Australia
Island of Cloves	-	Zanzibar
Island of Pearls	-	Bahrein (Persian Gulf)
Key to the Mediterranean	-	Gibraltar
Land of the Rising Sun	-	Japan
Land of Golden Fleece	-	Australia
Land of Midnight Sun	-	Norway
Loneliest Island	-	Tristan De Gunha (Mid Atlantic)
Land of Morning Calm	-	Korea
Land of Thousand Lakes	-	Finland
Land of the Thunderbolt	-	Bhutan
Land of Maple	-	Canada
Land of White Elephant	-	Thailand
Land of Cakes	-	Scotland
Never Never land	-	Vast Prairies of North Australia
Playground of Europe	-	Switzerland
Pearl of the Antilles	-	Cuba
Pillars of Hercules	-	Straits of Gibraltar
Pearl of the Pacific	-	Guyayaquil port of Equador
Quaker City	-	Philadelphia
Queen of the Adriatic	-	Venice
Roof of the World	-	The Pamirs, Central Asia