

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES ON INDIA / UNESCO COOPERATION

I. COUNTRY PROFILE *(source: UNDP Human Development Report 2016)*

- Population, total (millions): 1,311.1
- Human Development Index: 0.624; Rank: 131 (out of 188 countries, between Tajikistan which ranks 129 and Bhutan which ranks 132)
- Life expectancy at birth (years): 68.3
- Expected years of schooling (years): 11.7
- Gross national income (GNI) per capita (2011 PPP\$): 5,663
- Internet users (% of population): 26.0
- Carbon dioxide emissions per capita (tonnes): 1.6
(UN Map of South Asia at the end)

II. INDIA/UNESCO COOPERATION

1. **Membership in UNESCO:** since 4 November 1946
2. **Membership on the Executive Board:** yes (term expires in 2021)
Representative: Mr JS Rajput
3. **Membership on Intergovernmental Committees, Commissions, etc.:**
 - Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee (term expires in 2019)
 - Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage; Vice-President and Member (member's term expires in 2018)
 - Executive Council of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
 - Subsidiary Committee of the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (UNESCO, Paris, 1970 member's term expires in 2019)
4. **The Director-General's visits in the country: 0**
5. **The former Director-General's visits in the country: 4**
 - 30 August-2 September 2017
 - 23-27 November 2014: official visit
 - 9-12 November 2012: official visit
 - 9-14 January 2010: official visit
6. **Permanent Delegation to UNESCO:**
 - Ambassador, Permanent Delegate: H.E. Mr. Vinay Mohan Kwatra
 - Mr Arif Saeed, First Secretary
 - Mrs Ananya Agarwal, Second Secretary; Mr Balbir Raj Saini, Second Secretary; Mr Girish Singh Kavia, Attaché; Mr Arun Kumar Singh, Attaché
 - Previous Permanent Delegates: Mrs Ruchira Kamboj (24 April 2014 – July 2017); Mr Vinay Sheel Oberoi (2010-2014)
7. **UNESCO Office in New Delhi:**
 - Date of establishment: 1948
 - Member States served: India, Bhutan, the Maldives and Sri Lanka
 - Director: Mr Shigeru Aoyagi (since January 2012, D-1)

8. National Commission for UNESCO:

- Established: March 1949
- President (ex officio): H.E Shri Prakash Javadekar, Minister of Human Resources Development (since August 2016)
- Secretary-General: Mr K. K. Sharma (since March 2016)
- Deputy Secretary-General: Dr N. Saravana Kumar (since October 2017)

9. Personalities linked to UNESCO's activities:

- Mr Sunny Varkey, UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador
- Prof. Sharat H. Chandra, Emeritus Professor of the Department of Microbiology and Cell Biology at the Indian Institute of Science (Bangalore), is member of the International Bioethics Committee of UNESCO
- Mr Rajendra Kumar Pachauri (India), Director-General, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI); Chair, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change - Nobel Laureate for Peace. Member of the United Nations Secretary-General's Scientific Advisory Board. IBC (2008-2015)

10. UNESCO Chairs: 10

- UNESCO Chair in Peace, Human Rights and Democracy, Academy of Engineering and Educational Research, Pune (1998)
- UNESCO Chair for the Promotion of the Culture of Peace and Non-Violence, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Pune (1999)
- UNESCO Chair for Peace and Intercultural Understanding, Banaras Hindu University (2010)
- UNESCO Chair on Community Media, University of Hyderabad (2011)
- UNESCO Chair in Climate Science and Policy, TERI University (2012)
- UNESCO Chair in Inclusive Adapted Physical Education and Yoga, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda University (2012)
- UNESCO Chair on Education for Sustainable Development and the Human Habitat, The Centre for Environment Education and CEPT University (2013)
- UNESCO Chair on Culture, Habitat and Sustainable Development, Srishti School of Art, Design and Technology (2014)
- UNESCO/Cardinal Paul Poupard Foundation Chair on Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue, St Andrew's College of Arts (India) and Cardinal Paul Poupard Foundation (Italy) (2015)
- UNESCO Chair on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment, Amrita University (2016)

Chairs closed:

- UNESCO Chair in Cultural Development, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, New Delhi (1994)
- UNESCO-Cousteau Ecotechnie Chair in Ecotechnology, M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) (1996)
- UNESCO Chair in Teacher Education through Distance Mode, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi (1996)
- UNESCO Chair in Biotechnology, Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore, Bangalore (2000)

11. Associated Schools: 66 (2 primary, 24 primary and secondary, 34 secondary schools and 6 teacher training). India joined the ASP Network in 1997.

12. Category 3 Institutes and Centres:

- Regional Centre for Biotechnology Training and Education, Faridabad, India
- Centre on World Natural Heritage Management and Training for the Asia and Pacific region, Dehradun, India
- International Training Centre on Operational Oceanography, in Hyderabad

Category 1: Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (ED)

13. World Heritage sites: 36 properties

Cultural (28)

- Agra Fort (1983)
- Ajanta Caves (1983)
- Taj Mahal (1983)
- Ellora Caves (1983)
- Sun Temple, Konârak (1984)
- Group of Monuments at Mahabalipuram (1984)
- Fatehpur Sikri (1986)
- Churches and Convents of Goa (1986)
- Group of Monuments at Hampi (1986)
- Khajuraho Group of Monuments (1986)
- Elephanta Caves (1987)
- Great Living Chola Temples (1987)
- Group of Monuments at Pattadakal (1987)
- Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi (1989)
- Humayun's Tomb, Delhi (1993)
- Qutb Minar and its Monuments, Delhi (1993)
- Mountain Railways of India (1999, 2005, 2008)
- Mahabodhi Temple Complex at Bodh Gaya (2002)
- Rock Shelters of Bhimbetka (2003)
- Champaner-Pavagadh Archaeological Park (2004)
- Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (formerly Victoria Terminus) (2004)
- Red Fort Complex (2007)
- The Jantar Mantar, Jaipur (2010)
- Hill Forts of Rajasthan (2013)
- Rani-ki-Vav (The Queen's Stepwell) at Patan, Gujarat (2014)
- The Architectural Work of Le Corbusier, an Outstanding Contribution to the Modern Movement (2016)
- Archaeological Site of Nalanda Mahavihara (Nalanda University) at Nalanda, Bihar (2016)
- Historic City of Ahmadabad (2017)

Natural (7)

- Kaziranga National Park (1985)
- Keoladeo National Park (1985)
- Manas Wildlife Sanctuary (1985); also on the List of World Heritage in Danger since 1992;
- Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks (1988)
- Sundarbans National Park (1987)
- Western Ghats (2012)
- Great Himalayan National Park Conservation Area (2014)

Mixed (1)

- Khangchendzonga National Park (2016)

14. Tentative list: 44 properties

- Temples at Bishnupur, West Bengal (1998)
- Mattanchery Palace, Ernakulam, Kerala (1998)

- Group of Monuments at Mandu, Madhya Pradesh (1998)
- Ancient Buddhist Site, Sarnath, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh (1998)
- Sri Harimandir Sahib, Amritsar, Punjab (2004)
- River Island of Majuli in midstream of Brahmaputra River in Assam (2004)
- Namdapha National Park (2006)
- Wild Ass Sanctuary, Little Rann of Kutch (2006)
- Bhitarkanika Conservation Area (2009)
- Neora Valley National Park (2009)
- Desert National Park (2009)
- Silk Road Sites in India (2010)
- Santiniketan (2010)
- The Qutb Shahi Monuments of Hyderabad Golconda Fort, Qutb Shahi Tombs, Charminar (2010)
- Mughal Gardens in Kashmir (2010)
- Historic city of Ahmadabad (2011)
- The Victorian & Art Deco Ensemble of Mumbai (2012)
- Delhi - A Heritage City (2012)
- Monuments and Forts of the Deccan Sultanate (2014)
- Cellular Jail, Andaman Islands (2014)
- The Glorious Kakatiya Temples and Gateways (2014)
- Iconic Saree Weaving Clusters of India (2014)
- Dholavira: A Harappan City (2014)
- Apatani Cultural Landscape (2014)
- Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple, Srirangam (2014)
- Monuments of Srirangapatna Island Town (2014)
- Chilika Lake (2014)
- Padmanabhapuram Palace (2014)
- Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysala (2014)
- Sites of Saytagrah, India's non-violent freedom movement (2014)
- Thembang Fortified Village (2014)
- Narcondam Island (2014)
- Moidams – the Mound-Burial system of the Ahom Dynasty (2014)
- Ekamra Kshetra – The Temple City, Bhubaneswar (2014)
- The Neolithic Settlement of Burzahom (2014)
- Archaeological remains of a Harappa Port-Town, Lothal (2014)
- Mountain Railways of India (Extension) (2014)
- Chettinad, Village Clusters of the Tamil Merchants (2014)
- Bahá'í House of Worship at New Delhi (2014)
- Evolution of Temple Architecture – Aihole-Badami- Pattadakal (2015)
- Jaipur city, Rajasthan India (2015)
- Cold Desert Cultural Landscape of India (2015)
- Sites along the Uttarapath, Badshahi Sadak, Sadak-e-Azam, Grand Trunk Road (2015)
- Keibul Lamjao Conservation Area (2016)

15. Intangible Heritage Lists: 13 inscriptions on the Representative List

- Tradition of Vedic Chanting (2008)
- Ramlila, the traditional performance of the Ramayana (2008)
- Kutiyattam, Sanskrit Theatre (2008)
- Ramman, religious festival and ritual theatre of the Garhwal Himalayas, India (2009)
- Novruz, Nowrouz, Nooruz, Navruz, Nauroz, Nevru [Azerbaijan – India – Iran – (Islamic Republic of) – Kyrgyzstan – Pakistan – Turkey – Uzbekistan] (2009)
- Chhau dance (2010)
- Kalbelia folk songs and dances of Rajasthan (2010)
- Mudi yettu, ritual theatre and dance drama of Kerala (2010)
- Buddhist chanting of Ladakh: Recitation of sacred Buddhist texts in the trans-Himalayan Ladakh region, Jammu and Kashmir (2012)

- Sankirtana ritual singing, drumming and dancing of Manipur (2013)
- Traditional brass and copper craft of utensil making among the Thatheras of Jandiala Guru, Punjab (2014)
- Yoga, (2016)
- Kumbh Mela (2017)

16. Biosphere Reserves: 10

- Nilgiri, a unique and threatened ecosystem in the tropics of the Western Ghats Mountain system (2000)
- Gulf of Mannar, is one of the world's richest marine biodiversity regions (2001)
- Sunderbans, home to the largest mangal diversity in the world with 81 mangal plant species and provides habitat for the Royal Bengal tiger (2001)
- Nanda Devi (in the Himalayas - 2004);
- Nokrek (2009)
- Pachmarhi (2009)
- Similipal (2009)
- Achanakmar-Amarkantak (2012)
- Great Nicobar (2013)
- Agasthyamala (2016)

17. UNESCO Global Geoparks: no inscriptions

18. Memory of the World Register: 9 inscriptions

- The I.A.S. Tamil Medical Manuscript Collection, Institute of Asian Studies, Tamil Nadu(1997)
- Saiva Manuscripts in Pondicherry (2005)
- Rigveda, 30 manuscripts (Vedic texts) dating from 1800 BC to 1500 BC, Bhandarkar Institute, Pune (2007)
- Archives of the Dutch east India Company (2003: joint register with the Netherlands, Indonesia, South Africa and Sri Lanka)
- Iaghukālacakratantrarājatikā (Vimalaprabhā) (2011)
- Tarikh-E-Khandan-E-Timuriyah (2011)
- Shāntinātha Charitra (2013)
- Gilgit Manuscript (2017)
- Maitreyayvarakarana (2017)

19. Creative cities network: 2

- Varanasi, music, member since 2015
- Jaipur, Crafts and Folk Art, member since 2015

20. Legal Instruments: 19 ratified and 21 non-ratified

21. Anniversaries with which UNESCO is associated in 2018-2019: None