KEY FACTS AND FIGURES ON INDIA / UNESCO COOPERATION


- 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

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 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, Sri Shti 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)

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 Ghandi 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)
   - Khajurâho 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)
   - Mahabodhi Temple Complex at Bodh Gaya (2002)
   - Rock Shelters of Bhimbetka (2003)
   - Champagner-Pavagadh Archaeological Park (2004)
   - Red Fort Complex (2007)
   - The Jantar Mantar, Jaipur (2010)
   - Hill Forts of Rajasthan (2013)
   - Rani-ki-Vav (The Queen's Stepwell) at Patan, Gujrat (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)**
   - Khangchengzonga 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)
• Bhilarkanika 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 Ahmedabad (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)
• Keilam Lamjao Conservation Area (2016)

15. Intangible Heritage Lists: 13 inscriptions on the Representative List
• Tradition of Vedic Chanting (2008)
• Ramilla, the traditional performance of the Ramayana (2008)
• Kutiyattam, Sanskrit Theatre (2008)
• Ramman, religious festival and ritual theatre of the Garhwal Himalayas, India (2009)
• Chhau dance (2010)
• Kalbelia folk songs and dances of Rajasthan (2010)
• Mudiyettu, 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 Kasmir (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)
• Iaghuśālaśrāvatāraśāvatārā (Vimalaprabhā) (2011)
• Tarikh-E-Khandan-E-Timuriyah (2011)
• Shāntinātha Charitra (2013)
• Gilgit Manuscrpit (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