



FUN FACTS ABOUT INDIA

By Aniket Avhad (Age 10 years) & Mayank Bhide (Age 9 years)



Cheese was invented in India, in the sub-continent, during the Harappan period



The tiny village of Madhopatti is called the officer's village of India. This village in UP is said to have created the largest number of IAS officers. Of the 75 households 47 officers have been produced



Yoga had its origin in India and has existed for over 5,000 years. As per a yogi lore, 'Adiyogi' the first yogi, is said to have transmitted the science of yoga to the Saptarishis

India introduced Shampoo to the world. People were said to have used pulp of fruit called soapberries combining it with herbs and hibiscus flowers as early as 1500s.



Mawsynram, a town in the east of Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya, is the wettest place on earth with 11,800 millimeters of annual rainfall

India is the only country where a single-judge bench of Justice Shekhar Yadav has suggested to the government that the

Parliament should bring a bill to give fundamental rights to Cows, considering that it is a sacred animal. While the bill has not yet been passed, the thought has been discussed



5,000 years old Varanasi is the oldest city in the world. Also known as Kashi, many sages and saints are said to have come to this divine land to pray and learn. The city is famous for its ghats and the famous Banaras Hindu University. The Buddha is said to have given his first sermon near this great city at Sarnath

A meteor formed the breath-taking LONAR lake in Maharashtra

Mysterious anti-gravity hills in Ladak are situated about 30 kms from Leh. This place is famous because objects appear to be moving upwards instead of downwards when let free



Until now India has got 350 GI tags till date. Food items like Manipuri Black rice, Kashmiri Saffron, Darjeeling Tea, Palkova, Hyderabad Biryani, Kovilpatti Kadalai Mittai, and the famous "Banglar Rasogolla" to name a few

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

A momentous celebration

By Shubha Pradhan

On 15th August 2022 India is celebrating the 75th Independence Day. A full week of celebration from August 11th to August 17th has been announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. A unique slogan "Har Ghar Tiranga" has been launched to arouse patriotism in the heart of every Indian. Accordingly, in order to celebrate this legacy, every house in India is to hoist the flag as symbol of honour and unity.

To help achieve this fervour of patriotism and enable the celebration on such a large-scale special change were made in the flag code last year in December. The national flag which was then made from khadi alone, can now be made from cotton, silk, polyester or even wool.

Throughout the year the Government has also been encouraging village schools, panchayat offices, private schools, colleges, all administrative as well as corporate offic-

es to hoist the national flag.

However, with the new slogan the country needed at least 20 crore flags to be made within a year.

The opposition parties also questioned on the feasibility of achieving this unrealistic target. Would India have to seek help from China for this mass production, was the worry.

But here too the mission of "Make in India" worked to achieve this unrealistic goal. All over the country women empowerment projects made this dream come true! In rural India too mass production has been carried out and the mission is accomplished by our country!

PROUD TO BE INDIAN.

The Defence Ministry officials have helped in spreading awareness of this flag mission too. They were commissioned to visit local schools to teach children about the history of

our National flag and the flag codes.

At UnSchool children learnt about: The National flag, The National Anthem, The National Song, National symbols, National holidays, National Cadet Corps, The Armed Forces of India.

The recent surgical strikes like Kargil, URI and the peace time projects like project "Ganga" or "Sadbhavna" carried out by our Armed Forces.

We are proud to present this special Independence Day issue of UnTimes to all of you. Our children have taken special efforts to make this Tiranga that you will see on Page 2 in order to contribute to the "HAR GHAR TIRANGA" project in their own way.

Here's wishing a happy Independence Day from all of us here at UnSchool.

FACTS ABOUT THE NATIONAL FLAG:

By Samaira Pradhan (Age 7 years)

The Indian Flag is also referred to as 'Tiranaga'. Tiranga means 'tricolour' and the flag is rectangular in shape. The saffron at the top stands for bravery sacrifice and courage. The white in the middle stands for peace and truth. The green at the bottom stands for greenery and prosperity. The blue wheel in the middle, which is also called as Ashoka Chakra, has 24 spokes representing 24 hours in the day. First national flag in India is said to have been hoisted on 7th Aug 1906 in Kolkata. The 'Tirang' was adopted on 22nd July 1947 as Free India National Flag. National flag represents hope and aspirations of people of India. It is a symbol of National pride for all citizens



Freedom Fighters of India

By Archit Korke (Age 9 years)

North:

Bhagat Singh (27 September 1907 – 23 March 1931) was a charismatic Indian revolutionary who participated in the mistaken murder of a junior British police officer in retaliation for the death of Lala Lajpat Rai. He later took part in a largely symbolic bombing of the Central Legislative Assembly in Delhi and a hunger strike in jail. After his execution, by hanging, at a young age of 23 years, his name turned into a household name in the Punjab region. He electrified a growing freedom movement in India in the 1930s.



South:

Sarojini Naidu (13 February 1879 – 2 March 1949) was an Indian political activist and poet. A proponent of civil rights, women's rights, and anti-imperialistic ideas, she was an important person in India's struggle for independence from colonial rule. Naidu's work as a poet earned her the title 'the Nightingale of India', or 'Bharat Kokila' by Mahatma Gandhi.

Born in a Bengali family in Hyderabad, Chattopadhyay was educated in Madras,

London and Cambridge. Following her time in England, where she worked as a suffragist, she was drawn to the Indian National Congress' movement for India's independence from British rule. She became a part of the Indian nationalist movement and became a follower of Mahatma Gandhi and his idea of swaraj. She was appointed the President of the Indian National Congress in 1925 and later became the Governor of the United Provinces in 1947, becoming the first woman to hold the office of Governor in the Dominion of India.



East:

Subhas Chandra Bose (23 January 1897 – 18 August 1945) was an Indian nationalist whose defiance of British authority in India made him a hero among Indians, but his wartime alliances with Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan left a controversy.

Subhas Bose was born in a large Bengali family in Orissa during the British Raj. Bose joined the nationalist movement led by Mahatma Gandhi and the Indian National Congress. He followed Jawaharlal Nehru to leadership in a group within the Congress which was less keen on constitutional reform and more open to socialism. Bose

became Congress president in 1938. Bose resigned as president and was eventually ousted from the party due to disagreements within the party.

In April 1941 Bose arrived in Nazi Germany, where he tried to make an alliance with Hitler to fight British in India. He later joined hands with the Japanese to revamp the Indian National Army (INA). A Provisional Government of Free India was declared on the Japanese-occupied Andaman and Nicobar Islands and was nominally presided by Bose. He died from third-degree burns received when his overloaded plane crashed in Japanese Taiwan on August 18, 1945.



West:

Haribhau Bhadsavle (1916-2003) was a Gandhian freedom fighter and believed in nonviolence. He was also my great grandfather!!!

He became part of the freedom movement when he left his home at the age of 16 to take part in protest against the British. He was imprisoned and then further developed his

ideology about the fight for freedom during the time he was in jail.

He joined a freedom fighters group led by Bhai Kotwal in Karjat region in Maharashtra. The group used to steal grains and food from British storages and trains and distributed it amongst the poor. This group caused a lot of headaches for the British which resulted in the execution of Bhai Kotwal and many other group members at Siddhagad. Haribhau and a few other group members continued helping the poor till independence.

After independence Haribhau formed Kotwal wadi trust and continued his social work by working tirelessly for the betterment of adivasi and women in Free India.



India After Independence

By Himani Bhaktani (Age 13 years)

As a new and divided Nation, India faced a lot of hurdles when it gained independence in 1947. The wounds of partition were raw and the nation was in turmoil. One of the immediate challenges the new nation had to face was an insurgence of 8 million refugees from what was now Pakistan. These people had to find homes and jobs. Earlier, during the British rule, India was divided into princely states which had to be merged into the new Indian territory. It became a tough ask for the leaders like Nehru, Patel and others to convince the princely states to secede their thrones and merge into the new found nation. Almost 500 of them, each ruled by a maharaja or a nawab, each of who had to be persuaded to join the new nation. However, with great grit our leaders saw to it that all the states came in and became a part of the new Independent India.

A constitution is written

Between December 1946 and November 1949, about 300 Indians had a series of meetings on the country's political future. The meeting of this "Constituent Assembly" was held in New Delhi, but the participants came from all over India, and from different political parties. These discussions resulted in the framing of the India constitution,

which came into effect on 26 January 1950. One feature of the constitution was its adoption of universal adult franchise.

How were states to be formed?

Back in the 1920s, the Indian National Congress, the main party of the freedom struggle had promised that once the country won independence, major linguistic groups would have their own province.

However, after independence the congress did not take any steps to honour this promise. For India had been divided on the basis of religion: despite the wishes and efforts of Mahatma Gandhi, freedom had come not to one nation but to two. As a result of the partition of India, more than a million people were killed in riots between Hindus and Muslims, mostly in the northern regions of the country.

Planning for development

Lifting Indian and Indians out of poverty, and building a modern technical and industrial base were among the major objectives of the new nation. In 1950, the government set up a Planning Commission to help design and execute suitable policies for economic development. There was a broad agreement on what was called a "mixed economy"

model. Here, both the state and the private sector would play important and complementary roles in increasing production and generating jobs. Big industrialists like Tata, Birla among others played a key role in building the nation by focusing on infrastructure development. The first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and others who followed made sure that economic, social and industrial reforms were being made across sectors. In order to help build the nation, certain important functions like banking were taken up by the government. Nation building had thus begun, and India a young nation had found its wings.



Tête-à-Tête

By Shlok Ranawade (Age 10 years)

On the occasion of the 75th year of Independence, UnTimes came up with an idea of speaking to someone who had seen the struggle and lived through the times when India was a young nation. In an interesting chat with my grandfather Babasaheb Ranawade, I got to know about the times he lived in and the struggles of that generation. Excerpts:

Q1: What were the school conditions at the time when you were growing up?

Ans: The schools use to be in temples and while going you had to carry a sack for sitting

Q2: What subjects were taught? Did you have computers and other things we learn?

Ans: English was taught from 8th standard onwards and Hindi was taught from 5th onwards. Before that we used to learn only in

Marathi as a language and other subjects like Math, History which were also taught in Marathi. If you had a corporation school nearby kids would go there. But if there was no school available then kids would go to the nearby temples. Those who could had to necessarily go to a corporation school till 7th grade and we had no uniforms. On August 15th we had to wear white shoes and go, which would be similar to the PT shoes you wear in school these days.

Q3: How was the government at the time when you were growing up?

Ans: Government and its systems were simple. There was not much inflation, the value of the rupee was not as low as it is today. We all got much lesser salary than what is earned today, but we could live com-

fortably in the money we earned.

Q4: Tell me some good things about that time

Ans: Everything was cheap and many things were even free. The weather was nice and there was no pollution. The rivers were so clean that we could directly drink from them.

Q5: Were there any negative things that you would like to share about your younger days?

Ans: Because India had just got independence, there were many issues including money problems. Some people also got into addictions; alcohol was the prime one. This led them to not spending time or paying attention to their families, nor were they involved with their studies and overall development like parents are today.

Prime Ministers of India

By Aniruddha Iyer (Age 10.6 years)

After independence India adopted democracy as its way of governance. In a democratic setup a government is elected which is headed by a Prime Minister along with his council of ministers.

The Prime Minister and his cabinet thus elected is responsible to the Lok Sabha, also known as the lower house of the Parliament. The elections for the Prime Minister and his cabinet are held every 5 years through an electoral ballot.

The prime minister is the leader elected by the party which secures majority seats during the elections to the lower house of the parliament.

The prime minister can be a member of the Lok Sabha or of the Rajya Sabha, the upper house of the parliament. The prime minister

ranks third in the order of precedence, the first being the President of India (also called the first citizen of the country).

India has had 15 Prime Ministers since independence.

The first Prime Minister was Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, one of the prime leaders in India's freedom struggle and a part of the Indian National Congress. He is said to have promoted parliamentary democracy, secularism, and science and technology during the 1950s.

During his tenure Nehru also served as the foreign minister of the country.

The country has seen many leaders who have made a difference to the social, political and economic structure of the country. Some significant Prime Ministers of the

country include Lala Bahadur Shastri, Indira Gandhi, Morarji Desai, Rajeev Gandhi, I P Gujral, P V Narasimha Rao, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Manmohan Singh and the current Prime Minister Narendra Modi to name a few.

The current Prime Minister is among the very few who have got themselves elected to two terms in a row.

The first prime minister was the longest serving PM the country had. Nehru was in power for 16 years and 286 days. Lal Bahadur Shastri on the other hand was the shortest serving prime minister of the country.

The current prime minister Narendra Modi is in office since 26th May 2014.

India's Fight Against Corona

By Deshna Jain (Age 14 years)

The Covid Pandemic hit the world as early as December of 2019. Early cases of the virus were reported from China. However, the local virus that began in Wuhan, China spread across the world in no time.

Until March 2020, India had seen only a few cases, but as the numbers began to rise, Prime Narendra Modi announced a lockdown throughout the country. It was the first time that the country has seen such a big lockdown.

The government took a lot of steps to help people understand what was happening around them. While the general population was locked-down, the government and health care systems were working very hard to help people affected by the virus.

There was a mad rush for initially making the vaccine. Many pharmaceutical companies began trials. Eventually when the vaccine was successfully administered during the trials, it was made open to public. It was declared that those with co-morbidities (meaning lifestyle or other chronic diseases) along with the elderly population were to get their shots followed by young adults.

After a few months the vaccine drive eased as more and more people had taken their first doses. The number of cases and related deaths also lessened, some offices even re-called their employees.

Things seems to be working fine, until February. People began to travel. But yet again in April of 2021, cases were seen peaking. By this time many people had taken their second doses thus bringing down fatalities. The number of cases began to reduce and it seemed as if the vaccine drive was having an impact. Almost the entire population (except small kids) has been covered by the vaccination drive. It seems like the pandemic is finally becoming endemic. But still we cannot let off our guard, we need to mask up, wash our hands regularly and practice social distancing.

As of 1 August 2022, over 2.04 billion doses, including first, second and precautionary (booster) are said to have been administered. In India, 94% of the eligible population (12+) has received at least one shot, and 86% of the eligible population (12+) is fully vaccinated.

Drawings by our little



By Tanaya Jadhav (Age 8 years)



By Aarvi Zope (Age 9 years)



By Samaira Pradhan (Age 7 years)

SUDOKU
by Sagarika Iyer
(Age 8 years)

KIDS CORNER *(A world of Puzzles, Jokes, Quizzes and much more..)*

Word's the Word: Fill in the vowels and make the word by using the clues to find the word

By Aarohi Tatkare (Age 8 years)

- -- G -- ST – This is the month in which India's independence day falls
- CH—KR-- – This is the symbol found in blue colour in the centre of our national flag
- R--D F--RT – The place where the Prime Minister hoists the National Flag on Independence day
- N--T---N--L H--L--D--Y -- The day on which we get leave to celebrate our country
- TT--R PR—D--SH – Largest State in India

RIDDLES

By Talisa Lunkad (Age 7 years)

- This thing wears a cap while sleeping and removes it while working
- There is a city which is everywhere, in a house, in school, in restaurants and in cities too

** Answers on the last page

THE MATH WIZ QUIZ

By Arhant Chandran Shah (Age 7 years)

- | | | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 1) $1+ _ = 9$ | 2) $9- _ = 0$ | 3) $_ + 99 = 191$ | 4) $91+91 =$ | 5) $90+ _ = 90$ | 6) $_ + 66 = 166$ |
| 7) $60+60 =$ | 8) $90+_ = 15$ | 9) $7+_ = 11$ | 10) $10- _ = 8$ | | |

Spot the Difference

By: Fatima Alizai (Age 7 years)



India Quiz

by Anish Korke (Age 7 years)

1. What is India's national flag's name?
2. Who was the first president of India?
3. When did India become a republic?
4. How many states are there in India?
5. What is India's national anthem called?

** Answers on the last page

A photo is a worth 1,000 words

As a part of the on-going Independence celebrations across the country, we here at UnSchool taught the kids patriotic songs. The kids participated in the activity of flag making. Here's presenting a picture collage of activities done at our school in the first two weeks of Aug 2022.



ANSWER KEY

Riddle

Ans 1 –

Pen

Ans 2 –

Electricity

India Quiz

Ans 1 --

Tiranga.

Ans 2 --

Rajendra Prasad

Ans 3 --

26 of January 1950

Ans 4 --

28 states and

8 union territories

Ans 5 --

Jana gana mana

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