

Study Notes for UPSC/PCS: Important facts about India Part-2

Firsts in India

Male

First Person	NAME	OTHER IMPORTANT FACTS
First President of Indian Republic	Dr. Rajendra Prasad, 1950 to 1962	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President of the Constituent Assembly (1948-1950)
First Prime Minister of free India	Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> He is also called as the architect of modern India. Chairman of the constituent assembly. Chairman of Union Constitution Committee, Union Powers Committee and States Committee
First Indian to win Nobel Prize	Rabindranath Tagore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Also Known as Gurudev. Wrote National Anthem of India.
First President of Indian National Congress	W.C. Banerjee	
First Muslim President of Indian National Congress	Badruddin Tayyabji	
First Muslim President of India	Dr. Zakir Hussain	
First British Governor General of India	Lord William Bentinck (1833-1835)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sati system was banned during his regime.
First British Governor General of Bengal	Lord Warren Hasting (1774-1885)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Maratha war and second Mysore war occurred during his regime Founded Asiatic Society of Bengal.
First British Viceroy of India	Lord Canning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revolt of 1857 happened during his regime. Established 3 universities at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay.

First Governor General of free India	Lord Mountbatten	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indian Independence Bill 1947 was passed during his regime.
First and the last Indian to be Governor General of free India	C. Rajgopalachari	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Informally called as Rajaji or C.R.
The first man who introduced printing press in India	James Hicky (Bengal Gazette)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bible was the first book printed in India.
The First Indian to join the I.C.S	Satyendra Nath Tagore	
First man in Space from India	Rakesh Sharma	
First Prime Minister of India who resigned without completing the full term	Morarji Desai	
First Indian Commander-in-Chief of India	General Cariappa	
First Chief of Army Staff	Gen. Maharaj Rajendra Singhji	
First Indian to join Viceroy's executive council	S.P.Sinha	
First President of India who died while in office	Dr. Zakir Hussain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> He was awarded with Bharat Ratna award.
First Muslim President of Indian Republic	Dr. Zakir Hussain	
First Prime Minister of India who did not face the Parliament	Charan Singh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Serving from 28 July 1979 until 14 January 1980.
First Field Marshal of India	S.H.F. Manekshaw(1914-2008)	
First person to get Nobel Prize in Physics from India	C.V.Raman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the discovery of Raman Effect or Raman Scattering.
First Indian to receive Bharat Ratna award	Dr. Radhakrishnan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Vice President of India
First Indian to cross English Channel	Mihir Sen	
First Person to receive Jnanpith award	Sri Shankar Kurup	

The first Speaker of the Lok Sabha	Ganesh Vasudeva Mavalankar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also known as Dadasaheb • Speaker of the Constituent Assembly of India
First Vice-President of India	Dr. Radhakrishnan	
First Education Minister	Maulana Abul Kalam Azad	
First Home Minister of India	Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India's first Deputy Prime Minister. • Started Bardoli Satyagrah. • Chairman of Provincial Constitution Committee and Advisory Committee on Fundamental Rights, Minorities and Tribal and Excluded Areas.
First Indian Air Marshal	S. Mukherjee	
First Indian Naval Chief	Vice Admiral R.D. Katari	
First Indian Judge of International Court of Justice	Dr. Nagendra Singh	
First person to reach Mt. Everest without oxygen	Sherpa Ang Dorjee	
First person to get Param Vir Chakra	Major Somnath Sharma	
First Chief Election Commissioner	Sukumar Sen	
First person to receive Magsaysay Award	Acharya Vinoba Bhave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First person chosen for Individual Satyagraha.
First person of Indian origin to receive Nobel Prize in Medicine	Hargovind Khurana	
First Chinese traveller to visit India	Fahein	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visited India during the reign of Gupta emperor Chandragupta II
First person to receive Stalin Prize	Saifuddin Kitchlu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jalliawala Bagh gathering 1919 was held against the arrest of Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlu and Dr. Satyapal.
The first person to resign from the Central Cabinet	Shyama Prasad Mukherjee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Served as Minister for Industry and Supply in Prime

		Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's cabinet <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Founded the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, a predecessor to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), in 1951.
First person to receive Nobel Prize in Economics	Amartya Sen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For his contributions to welfare economics
First Chief Justice of Supreme Court	Justice Hiralal J. Kania	
First Indian Pilot	J.R.D. Tata (1929)	

Female

First Indian woman to become Miss World	Rita Faria	
First Indian woman judge in Supreme Court	Mrs. Meera Sahib Fatima Bibi	
First woman Ambassador from India	Mrs. C.B. Muthamma	
First Indian woman Governor of a state in free India	Mrs Sarojini Naidu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She became the first Indian President of Indian National Congress • Known as the 'Nightingale of India'
First Indian woman Speaker of a State Assembly	Shanno Devi	
First Indian woman Prime Minister	Mrs Indira Gandhi (sworn on January 24, 1966)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full name Indira Priyadarshini Nehru. • Indo Pakistan war 1971 was fought during his regime. • Imposed National Emergency from 25 June 1975 to 21 March 1977. • Operation Bluestar Started by her.
First Indian woman Minister in a Government	Rajkumari Amrit Kaur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As Health minister.
First Indian woman to climb Mount Everest	Bachhendri Pal	

First Indian woman to climb Mount Everest twice	Santosh Yadav	
First woman President of Indian National Congress	Mrs Annie Besant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Started Home league in India. • Theosophical society in India.
First Indian woman President of Indian National Congress	Mrs. Sarojini Naidu	
First Indian woman President of United Nations General Assembly	Mrs. Vijay Laxmi Pandit	
First Indian woman who got Graduates degree	Kadambini Ganguly and Chandramukhi Basu, 1883	
First Indian woman Honours Graduate	Kamini Roy, 1886	
First Indian woman Olympic medal Winner	Karnam Malleswari, 2000	
First Indian woman to win Gold Medal in Asian Games	Kamlijit Sandhu	
First Indian woman Lawyer	Cornelia Sorabjee	
First woman Chief Minister of an Indian State	Mrs. Sucheta Kripalani	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head of the Uttar Pradesh government from 1963 to 1967. • Part of the subcommittee that drafted the Indian Constitution. • Like her contemporaries Aruna Asaf Ali and Usha Mehta, she came to the forefront during the Quit India Movement.
First Indian woman Chairman of Union Public Service Commission	Roze Millian Bethew	
First Indian woman Director General of Police	Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattacharya	
First woman Judge of India	Anna Chandy (She became the judge in a district court in 1937)	

First Indian woman Chief Justice of High Court	Mrs. Leela Seth (Himachal Pradesh High Court)	
First Indian woman Lieutenant General	Puneeta Arora	
First Indian woman Air Vice-Marshal	P. Bandopadhyaya	
First woman to receive Jnanpith Award from India	Ashapoorna Devi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For her novel 'Pratham Pratisruti' in 1965
First Indian woman IPS officer	Mrs. Kiran Bedi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> India's First & Highest (Woman) Ranking Officer
First Indian and last Muslim woman ruler of India	Razia Sultan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1236 –1240, Slave Dynasty
First Indian woman to receive Ashoka Chakra	Nirja Bhanot	
First woman to cross the English Channel from India	Aarti Saha	
First Indian woman to receive Nobel Prize	Mother Teresa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Received honours, like Ramon Magsaysay Peace Prize 1962 and Nobel Peace Prize 1979. Founded the Missionaries of Charity, a Roman Catholic religious congregation for the welfare of HIV/AIDS, leprosy, and tuberculosis affected People and Orphanage. Born in Skopje (Macedonia) moved to India in 1930's. She was canonized (recognized by the church as a saint) on 4 September 2016,
First Indian woman to receive Bharat Ratna	Mrs. Indira Gandhi	
First Indian woman pilot in Indian Air Force	Harita Kaur Dayal	
First Indian woman appeared on Time Magazine cover.	Parveen Babi	

India's first test tube baby	“Durga” (Kanupriya Agarwal)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• She was brought into life in the year 1978 by the hands of D.r Subhash Mukhopadhyay
-------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	---

[**Click here for Daily UPSC Current Affairs**](#)

[**Click here for Daily Reading List**](#)

[**Monthly Current Affairs Compilation**](#)

[**Important Study notes and Materials for UPSC and State
PCS Exams**](#)

gradeup