

National Symbols of India – Names, Pictures, Meaning & Complete Chart

Complete Reference Guide | Updated 2026

India's national symbols represent the country's history, heritage, culture, values, biodiversity and national identity. This printable guide provides a quick reference to India's important national symbols and identity elements, including the National Flag, State Emblem, National Anthem, National Song, National Animal, National Bird, National Flower, National Tree, National Fruit, National Aquatic Animal and National Calendar.

Useful for: Students • Teachers • General Knowledge • Competitive Exams • School Projects • Quiz Preparation

Quick List of National Symbols of India

No.	National Symbol / Identity Element	Name
1	National Flag	Tiranga / Tricolour
2	State Emblem	Lion Capital of Ashoka at Sarnath
3	National Anthem	Jana Gana Mana
4	National Song	Vande Mataram
5	National Animal	Royal Bengal Tiger
6	National Bird	Indian Peacock
7	National Flower	Lotus
8	National Tree	Indian Banyan
9	National Fruit	Mango
10	National Aquatic Animal	Ganges River Dolphin
11	National Calendar	Saka Calendar
12	National Currency Symbol	₹ – Indian Rupee Symbol

1. National Flag of India – Tiranga

India's National Flag is popularly known as the **Tiranga**, or Tricolour.

It consists of three horizontal bands of saffron, white and green, with the **navy-blue Ashoka Chakra containing 24 spokes** at the centre of the white band.

The National Flag is an important symbol of India's sovereignty, unity, national pride and identity.

The Constituent Assembly adopted the present National Flag on **22 July 1947**.

What do the colours represent?

- **Saffron:** courage and sacrifice
- **White:** peace and truth
- **Green:** fertility, growth and auspiciousness
- **Ashoka Chakra:** the wheel of Dharma and continuous progress

The display and use of India's National Flag are governed by applicable laws, rules and the Flag Code of India.

2. State Emblem of India – Lion Capital of Ashoka

India's State Emblem is an adaptation of the **Lion Capital of Ashoka at Sarnath**.

The original Lion Capital dates to the reign of Emperor Ashoka.

The emblem represents India's authority and national identity. The motto **“Satyameva Jayate”**, meaning **“Truth Alone Triumphs,”** appears below the emblem.

The State Emblem is used by the Government of India for official purposes.

3. National Anthem of India – Jana Gana Mana

India's National Anthem is **Jana Gana Mana**.

It was composed by **Rabindranath Tagore**.

The Constituent Assembly adopted Jana Gana Mana as India's National Anthem on **24 January 1950**.

The anthem represents national unity and is an important expression of India's identity and pride.

For official information concerning the National Anthem and its observance, refer to the Government of India's National Portal.

4. National Song of India – Vande Mataram

India's National Song is **Vande Mataram**.

It was composed by **Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay**.

Vande Mataram played an important role in India's freedom movement and became a powerful expression of patriotism.

It holds a special place in India's national heritage and cultural history.

5. National Animal of India – Royal Bengal Tiger

The **Royal Bengal Tiger** is India's National Animal.

Scientific name: **Panthera tigris**

The tiger is associated with strength, courage, agility and India's rich wildlife heritage.

As a major predator, the tiger also plays an important role in maintaining ecological balance.

India's tiger conservation efforts have made the tiger one of the most important symbols of the country's wildlife conservation programme.

6. National Bird of India – Indian Peacock

The **Indian Peacock** is India's National Bird.

Scientific name: **Pavo cristatus**

The peacock is famous for its colourful plumage and distinctive appearance.

It has a strong presence in Indian art, culture, traditions and mythology and is widely associated with beauty, grace and pride.

7. National Flower of India – Lotus

The **Lotus** is India's National Flower.

Scientific name: **Nelumbo nucifera**

The lotus has deep cultural and religious significance in India.

It is commonly associated with purity, beauty, spiritual awakening and resilience because the flower grows in water while maintaining its distinctive beauty.

8. National Tree of India – Banyan Tree

The **Indian Banyan Tree** is India's National Tree.

Scientific name: **Ficus benghalensis**

The banyan is known for its extensive branches and aerial roots that can develop into additional trunks.

It is associated with longevity, shelter, stability and India's traditional cultural heritage.

9. National Fruit of India – Mango

The **Mango** is widely recognized as India's National Fruit.

Scientific name: **Mangifera indica**

India has a long history of mango cultivation and is home to numerous traditional and commercial mango varieties.

Mangoes have an important place in Indian agriculture, cuisine, culture and seasonal traditions.

10. National Aquatic Animal of India – Ganges River Dolphin

The **Ganges River Dolphin** is India's National Aquatic Animal.

Scientific name: **Platanista gangetica**

It is a freshwater dolphin found in major river systems of the Indian subcontinent.

The species is an important part of India's aquatic biodiversity and highlights the importance of protecting river ecosystems.

The conservation of river dolphins is closely connected with the protection of healthy freshwater habitats.

11. National Calendar of India – Saka Calendar

The **Saka Calendar** is India's National Calendar.

It is used for official purposes alongside the Gregorian calendar according to applicable government rules.

The Saka Calendar is based on the traditional Indian calendrical system and provides a standardized national calendar for official use.

12. National Currency Symbol of India – ₹

The symbol ₹ represents the Indian Rupee.

The Indian Rupee is India's official currency.

The rupee symbol combines visual elements associated with the Devanagari letter “र” and the Roman capital letter “R”, representing India's linguistic and economic identity.

The symbol was officially adopted by the Government of India in 2010.

National Symbols of India – One-Line Revision Chart

Question	Answer
What is the National Flag of India?	Tiranga / Tricolour
What is the National Emblem of India?	Lion Capital of Ashoka
What is the National Anthem of India?	Jana Gana Mana
What is the National Song of India?	Vande Mataram
What is the National Animal of India?	Royal Bengal Tiger
What is the National Bird of India?	Indian Peacock
What is the National Flower of India?	Lotus
What is the National Tree of India?	Banyan
What is the National Fruit of India?	Mango
What is the National Aquatic Animal of India?	Ganges River Dolphin

Question	Answer
What is the National Calendar of India?	Saka Calendar
What is the currency symbol of India?	₹

Important Facts About India's National Symbols

National Flag

The Indian National Flag is popularly known as the Tiranga. The Ashoka Chakra in the centre contains 24 spokes.

State Emblem

The State Emblem is adapted from the Lion Capital of Ashoka at Sarnath and carries the motto "Satyameva Jayate".

National Anthem

Jana Gana Mana was written by Rabindranath Tagore and was adopted as the National Anthem on 24 January 1950.

National Song

Vande Mataram was written by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay and has an important place in India's freedom movement.

National Animal

The Royal Bengal Tiger represents India's remarkable wildlife heritage and is an important conservation species.

National Bird

The Indian Peacock was chosen as India's National Bird because of its distinctive appearance and cultural significance.

National Flower

The lotus represents beauty and purity and has deep cultural significance throughout India.

Frequently Asked Questions About National Symbols of India

How many national symbols does India have?

India has several officially designated national identity elements, while many other objects, animals, plants and cultural elements are popularly described as national symbols. The exact count can vary depending on what a particular list includes.

For this reason, it is better to identify the status of each item instead of presenting every commonly circulated list as an official Government of India list.

What is the National Animal of India?

The **Royal Bengal Tiger** is the National Animal of India.

What is the National Bird of India?

The **Indian Peacock** is the National Bird of India.

What is the National Flower of India?

The **Lotus** is India's National Flower.

What is the National Tree of India?

The **Banyan Tree** is India's National Tree.

What is the National Fruit of India?

The **Mango** is widely recognized as India's National Fruit.

What is the National Aquatic Animal of India?

The **Ganges River Dolphin** is India's National Aquatic Animal.

What is the National Anthem of India?

Jana Gana Mana is India's National Anthem.

What is the National Song of India?

Vande Mataram is India's National Song.

What is India's National Flag called?

India's National Flag is commonly called the **Tiranga**, meaning Tricolour.

What is the National Emblem of India?

India's State Emblem is an adaptation of the **Lion Capital of Ashoka at Sarnath**.

What is India's National Calendar?

The **Saka Calendar** is India's National Calendar.

Important Note About Commonly Listed “National Symbols”

Many websites publish extended lists containing terms such as “National Sport”, “National Language”, “National River” and similar categories.

These should not automatically be treated as officially designated national symbols.

For example, **hockey should not be described as India's officially declared National Sport**, and **Hindi should not be described as India's National Language**.

This distinction is important for accurate educational and competitive-exam content.

Always verify official designations against authoritative Government of India sources where necessary.

Why Are National Symbols Important?

National symbols help represent a country's history, values, heritage, culture and identity.

India is one of the world's most culturally and geographically diverse countries. Its national identity is represented through symbols associated with its history, Constitution, biodiversity, culture and traditions.

These symbols are particularly useful for:

- School students
- Teachers
- General Knowledge preparation
- Competitive examinations
- Quiz competitions
- School projects
- Independence Day activities
- Republic Day activities
- Educational presentations
- General awareness preparation

National Symbols of India – Quick Study Notes

National Flag: Tiranga

State Emblem: Lion Capital of Ashoka

National Anthem: Jana Gana Mana

National Song: Vande Mataram

National Animal: Royal Bengal Tiger

National Bird: Indian Peacock

National Flower: Lotus

National Tree: Banyan

National Fruit: Mango

National Aquatic Animal: Ganges River Dolphin

National Calendar: Saka Calendar

Currency Symbol: ₹

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The PDF is useful for students, teachers, school projects, competitive-exam preparation, GK revision and educational reference.

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Official Reference

For authoritative information about India's national identity, National Anthem and other national matters, readers should refer to the **National Portal of India** and relevant Government of India publications.

The National Portal of India provides a dedicated National Identity section under Facts of India.

About This PDF

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Disclaimer: This PDF is prepared for educational and informational purposes. Where an item is commonly described as a national symbol but does not have an official designation, it should be treated accordingly. Government rules and official designations may change; consult authoritative Government of India sources for legal or official purposes.

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