

Country Historic Profile: INDIA

World Bank Group Archives

Profile completed: October 22, 2020

Basic Historical Information

Membership days for each affiliate

Information is taken from the [World Bank Group membership page](#).

- IBRD: December 27, 1945
- IDA: September 24, 1960
- IFC: July 20, 1956
- MIGA: January 6, 1994
- ICSID: not a member

First loan(s)

Information is taken from the [Projects & Operations website](#).

- August 18, 1949: [Railway Project](#)

Resident Mission establishment

Information is taken from internal World Bank Group Archives resource.

- October 10, 1957

Photo Resources related to country

Hyperlink links to photos in the World Bank Group Archives' [Photo Catalog](#) for a given country. Digitization and description of archival photos are ongoing, and photos are added to the catalog regularly. In instances where the catalog contains no photos for a given country, check back frequently for additions, or contact the Archives for consultation by emailing archives@worldbank.org.

- [Historical photos related to India](#)

Project profiles related to country

Link is to a list in the [Projects & Operations website](#) of all projects approved, dropped, or in the pipeline for a given country. Each project links to a project profile that includes description, financial details, and lists of reports, archival record folders, and photos, when available. This can be helpful to study the evolution of the Bank's work in the country over time, and to identify notable projects that represent important shifts or moments in the country's history. Projects are also excellent examples of case studies of how the Bank made an impact in a particular sector. The WBG Archives have original records and other information related to these projects. Email archives@worldbank.org for guidance.

- [India project profiles in Projects & Operations](#)

Description of operational records in Archives Holdings

Archival records relating to Bank operations are described according to the ISAD(g) standard and are accessible in our [Archives Holdings catalog](#). Descriptions include lengthy organizational histories of the regional vice presidency responsible for operations in that region and a description of records created and transferred to the Archives by that vice presidency. The descriptions in the catalog can be helpful to understand the organizational context of Bank work, and to understand more about the content of the records in the Archives.

- [Records of the South Asia Regional Vice Presidency](#)

Chronology events

Events have been selected from the Archivists' Chronology, an 800+ page resource compiled by Bank Group archivists over the course of the institution's history. Events chosen include important firsts, milestones and other events that evidence the country's development history and/or its relationship with the World Bank Group. The Archivists' Chronology is accessible on [this page](#). This list of events can be helpful to determine if you'd like to dig deeper into any moments in the country's history of engagement with the Bank. The WBG Archives may have original records and other information about these events. Email archives@worldbank.org for guidance.

Bretton Woods Conference; Representatives of India Attend

July 1-22, 1944

IBRD Articles of Agreement Signed by India

December 27, 1945

Bank Missions to India, Turkey, Colombia, and Peru Announced

January 10, 1949

Bank Lends for Railway Reconstruction and Development in India

August 18, 1949

Black Begins Visit to Pakistan, India, Ceylon, Thailand, and Australia

January 25, 1952

First Meeting of Engineers to Study Indus Basin Water Supplies

May 7, 1952

Economic Development Institute Opens; Initial Cohort Includes Participants from India

January 9, 1956

Bank Mission to Review India's First Five-Year Plan

April 19, 1956

IFC Articles of Agreement Signed by India

July 20, 1956

Bank Establishes Resident Mission in India

1957

First Meeting of India Aid Consortium

August 25-27, 1958

Annual Meetings Convene in New Delhi

October 7, 1958

First IFC Investment in India

February 9, 1959

Indus Waters Agreement on Transitional Arrangements Announced

April 18, 1959

Black Announces Bankers' Study of India and Pakistan

December 19, 1959

Indus Waters Treaty Signed

September 19, 1960

IDA Articles of Agreement Signed by India

September 24, 1960

Financial Assistance for River Crossing Study in Calcutta Announced

June 21, 1962

EDI Course in India with Indian Institute of Management Announced

May 7, 1964

IFC Representative Office in New Delhi, India Established

July 1, 1983

First Expanded Cofinancing Operations (ECO) Program Transaction Approved; Supports India's Housing Development Finance Corporation

June 14, 1990

MIGA Articles of Agreement Signed by India

January 6, 1994

World Bank Group Timeline Events

Events are selected from the [World Bank Group Timeline](#). The Timeline is an online platform created by the Archives designed to highlight the important events in the Bank Group's history and to illuminate

those events through a variety of archival records, photos, video and audio clips, oral history transcripts, reports, and more.

[First India Aid Consortium meeting draws attention to the need for increased financing](#)

August 25, 1958

[India and Pakistan sign Indus Waters Treaty](#)

September 19, 1960

[First IDA credit approved](#)

May 12, 1961

[First IDA credit for energy sector approved](#)

February 14, 1962

[First IDA credit for telecommunications sector approved](#)

September 14, 1962

[IDA approves industrial sector credit for import of materials](#)

June 9, 1964

[IDA approves multiple credits in response to South Asia drought, flooding, and political events](#)

November 24, 1987

[Independent Review of the Sardar Sarovar Project published](#)

June 18, 1992

Early Country Economic Reports

Reports have been selected from the [Documents & Reports website](#), a database of publicly available World Bank Group authored reports and publications dating to the opening of the Bank in 1946. Country economic reports that are selected here are, in many cases, some of the earliest economic studies ever published on Bank member countries. Reports discussing the whole economy of a country, rather than individual sectors, are prioritized in this list.

The banking system of India - appendix to summary study of India	January 1, 1948
Recent economic development in India	August 12, 1949
Summary of economic and financial developments in India in the last half of 1949	March 17, 1950
Review of recent economic and financial developments in India	June 24, 1950
The five-year plan of India and India's creditworthiness	February 14, 1952
Recent economic and financial developments in India	July 25, 1952
India - Recent economic and financial developments	December 9, 1952
India - Current economic position and prospects	November 30, 1954

India - Current economic position and prospects	August 31, 1956
India - Current economic position and prospects	May 31, 1957
India - Memorandum on recent economic developments	April 30, 1958
India - Current economic position and prospects	July 31, 1958
India - Recent economic developments and current prospects	February 28, 1959
India - Third five-year plan	August 10, 1960
India - Current economic position and prospects	March 31, 1961
India - Current economic position and prospects	May 31, 1964
India - Current economic position and prospects	June 30, 1966
India - Economic policy and the fourth five-year plan	May 22, 1967
India - Economic policy and the fourth five-year plan (Vol. 3)	May 22, 1967
India - Economic policy and the fourth five-year plan (Vol. 2)	May 23, 1967
India - Economic situation and prospects	April 30, 1969
India - Economic situation and prospects (Vol. 2): Statistical appendix	May 11, 1971
India - Economic situation and prospects: Main report	May 11, 1971
India - Economic situation and prospects: The main report	May 10, 1972
India - Economic situation and prospects: Main report	May 7, 1974
India - Economic situation and prospects	May 31, 1975
India - Economic situation and prospects	March 31, 1976
India - Economic situation and prospects	April 30, 1977
India - Economic situation and prospects	April 30, 1978
India - Economic situation and prospects	April 30, 1979

Country Assistance Strategies

The list is based on a similar list compiled by the World Bank's Secretary's staff. Introduced in 1990 and replaced by the Country Partnership Framework (CPF) in 2014, the CAS is an overview of each borrowing country's current economic situation and contains a discussion of its development challenges, prospects, and project-planning. CASs were often initially published as part of project documents but later on were published as standalone documents.

Country Strategies Included within Project Documents	
India - Integrated Child Development Services Project	August 7, 1990
India - Structural Adjustment Credit Project	November 12, 1991
India - The Social Safety Net Sector Adjustment Program Project	November 30, 1992
India - Cataract Blindness Control Project	April 21, 1994
Stand-Alone Country Strategies	
India - Country strategy paper	July 18, 1991
India - Country assistance strategy	May 19, 1995
India - Country assistance strategy	December 19, 1997
	Not Found

India - Country assistance strategy: progress report	January 26, 1999
India - Country Assistance Strategy (CAS)	June 27, 2001
India - Country assistance strategy: progress report	January 15, 2003
India - Country assistance strategy	September 15, 2004
India - Country Strategy Progress Report: for the period FY2005-2008	May 9, 2007
India - Country strategy for the period FY2009-2012	November 14, 2008
India - Country strategy progress report for the period FY2009-2012	December 14, 2010
India - Country partnership strategy for the period FY13-FY17	March 21, 2013
Performance and learning review of the country partnership strategy for India for the period FY2013 - 17	September 2, 2015
India - Country Partnership Framework for the Period FY18-FY22	July 25, 2018

Staff Newsletters

Resources have been selected from the World Bank Group's [Documents & Reports website](#). The World Bank has produced a staff newsletter since 1947. The publication changed its name twice: from International Bank Notes to Bank Notes in 1971 and then to Bank's World in 1982. The newsletter moved online in 2000 and physical publication ceased. In addition to offering news relating to Bank operations and country development, the newsletters were intended to foster a sense of community among staff by highlighting social events, marriages and births, the arrival of new staff, recreational events, favorite cooking recipes submitted by staff, and features on different aspects of staff's home country and culture.

International Bank Notes -- Vol. 3, Iss. 5	March 15, 1949	"Back home to India"
International Bank Notes -- Vol. 3, Iss. 17	September 1, 1949	"Her Excellency the Ambassador of India, Signs Agreement for a Loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development"
International Bank Notes -- Vol. 4, Iss. 3	February 1, 1950	"The Bank's Trainees"
International Bank Notes -- Vol. 5, Iss. 7	June 25, 1951	"Lending - The Bank's Contribution to Economic Development"
International Bank Notes -- Vol. 6, Iss. 2	February 1, 1952	"India"
International Bank Notes -- Vol. 6, Iss. 4	April 1, 1952	"Making a Bank movie in India"
International Bank Notes -- Vol. 7, Iss. 3	March 1, 1953	"The development of India's Damodar Valley"
International Bank Notes -- Vol. 12, Iss. 7-8	October 1, 1958	"Visit to Delhi"
International Bank Notes -- Vol. 17, Iss. 7	August 1, 1963	"The World Bank in South Asia and the Middle East"
International Bank Notes -- Vol. 22, Iss. 1	January 1, 1968	"The stamp box"
Bank Notes -- Vol. 1, Iss. 5	March 1, 1972	"IDA, India seek a new deal for India's farmers"
Bank Notes -- Vol. 3, Iss. 3	April 1, 1974	"Houseboat vacation lures Kashmir visitor"

Bank Notes	April 1, 1978	"Arabian Sea oil and gas production proceeding apace, will help India meet her energy needs "
Bank Notes	September 1, 1979	"Film crew experiences life in Indian village"
Bank Notes	February 1, 1981	"India: Progress in its Agriculture Sector - World hunger is seen as result of maldistribution, not a lack of food"
Bank's World -- Vol. 2, Iss. 2	February 1, 1983	"Mission Chief tells of problems, progress - The Bank's man in Delhi"
Bank's World -- Vol. 3, Iss. 5	May 1, 1984	"More and Better-Managed Water Flows to Fields of India - The Green Revolution Gathers Speed"
Bank's World -- Vol. 4, Iss. 7	July 1, 1985	"Project in Madras - Providing Shelter for Low-Income Groups"
Bank's World -- Vol. 5, Iss. 9	September 1, 1986	"Opportunity for cooperation in water resources development in the Ganges and Brahmaputra Basins"
Bank's World -- Vol. 7, Iss. 6	June 1, 1988	"Khus May Be the Answer - Another "Green Revolution?"
Bank's World -- Vol. 10, Iss. 7	July 1, 1991	"Thinking Small - A Little Company with Big Ideas"
Bank's World -- Vol. 12, Iss. 12	December 1, 1993	"Emergency Help to Rebuild Villages After Earthquake Strikes India"
Bank's World -- Vol. 13, Iss. 12	December 1, 1994	"Conserving India's Biodiversity Through Participatory Ecodevelopment"
Bank's World -- Vol. 14, Iss. 8	August 1, 1995	"Ten days in India - European journalists visit social sector projects"
Bank's World -- Vol. 14, Iss. 12	December 1, 1995	"Community Management of Indian Forests"
Bank's World -- Vol. 1, Iss. 12	September 18, 1997	"The struggle to reach the soul of India"
Bank's World -- Vol. 1, Iss. 12	September 18, 1997	"Economic miracle yet to arrive at the village"
Bank's World -- Vol. 2, Iss. 8	June 25, 1998	"Unfilled thirst for schooling"
Bank's World -- Vol. 13, Iss. 1	January 1, 1999	Tamil Nadu uses song, dance and drama to reduce malnutrition
Bank's World -- Vol. 13, Iss. 1	January 1, 1999	New lives bloom in desert soil

Bank's World -- Vol. 4, Iss. 7	August 1, 2000	"Leaching the Salts to Reclaim the Land - India's Uttar Pradesh Sodic Lands Reclamation Project I"
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Oral histories

Oral histories are selected from the World Bank Group Archives' [Oral History website](#). The site contains transcripts of oral history interviews with departed staff and, in lesser number, Executive Directors and other individuals affiliated with or impacted by the World Bank Group. Interviews were conducted as part of an ongoing effort by the Archives to collect the personal stories and reflections of Bank Group staff. A portion of the interviews was conducted as research for publications. Each transcript provides a valuable first-person account of Bank activities and decision-making from the very beginning of its operations.

J. Burke Knapp	July 1, 1961
Siem Aldewereld	July 13, 1961
Robert Garner	July 19, 1961
Paul Rosenstein-Rodan	August 14, 1961
Sir William Iliff	August 12 and 16, 1961
Siem Aldewereld	November 2 and 6, 1985: Second interview session
Kenneth Bohr	July 13, 1986
Julian Grenfell	July 15, 1986
Montague Yudelman	July 18, 1986
Benjamin B. King	July 24 and 25, 1986
Ladislaus von Hoffman	June 28, 1990
Aron Broches	October 20, 1990
Bernard R. Bell	November 21, 1990
Robert S. McNamara	April 1, May 10, and October 3, 1991
Willi Wapenhans	September 6, 1991
Montague Yudelman	September 12, 1991
Alfred Sfeir-Younis	October 21, 1991
Inderjit Singh	October 15, 1991
Jochen Kraske	November 5, 1991
Heinz Vergin and William Humphrey	November 5, 1991
Ernest Stern	December 16 and 29, 1994, and January 5, 1995: First interview session
Jean Baneth	December 19, 1994, January 12, 1995, and September 11, 1996
Attila Karaosmanoglu	November 17, 1994 and January 10, and 18, 1995
Wilfried P. Thalwitz	January 22, February 12 and 28, 1996
Jochen Kraske	March 3, 13, 20, 2006

Online exhibits

Online exhibits are authored by the World Bank Group staff and are accessible on both the Archives' [external site](#) and as a [series of older exhibits](#) in the Documents & Reports website. Exhibits focus on notable personalities and accomplishments in the Bank Group's history.

Title: [Dissemination Note on the Social Assessment for India Tuberculosis Control Project, 1997](#)

Originally Published: March 2007

Title: [Report to the President of the IBRD and IDA on India's Economic Development, Effort, October 1, 1965](#)

Originally Published: November 2010

Title: [Barber Conable's Trip to India in November 1987](#)

Originally Published: March 2011

Executive Directors

The list is based on the World Bank Group [Board of Directors website](#). The country following the name of each ED indicates their nationality.

SUNDARESAN, N. (India)	May 7, 1946	October 13, 1949
NEHRU, B.K. (India)	August 23, 1949	January 14, 1954
KAMAT, G.R. (India)	January 15, 1954	October 10, 1956
NARAHARI RAO, V., (India)	October 11, 1956	October 31, 1958
NEHRU, B.K. (India)	November 5, 1958	June 3, 1962
KRISHNA MOORTHY, C.S. (India)	June 4, 1962	July 31, 1963
SUNDARA RAJAN, K. S. (also: RAJAN, K.S. Sundara) (India)	August 1, 1963	March 28, 1968
JAGANNATHAN, S. (India)	March 29, 1968	June 15, 1970
SEN, Samar Ranjan (India)	June 26, 1970	October 31, 1972
SEN, Samar Ranjan (India)	November 1, 1972	February 28, 1978
NARASIMHAM, M., (India)	March 1, 1978	October 31, 1980
RAY, H. N., (India)	November 1, 1980	October 31, 1982
RAY, H. N., (India)	November 1, 1982	February 28, 1985
RAO SAHIB, C. R. Krishnaswamy (India)	March 1, 1985	July 31, 1989
BAIJAL, J.S. (India)	August 1, 1989	October 31, 1992
JALAN, Bimal, (India)	November 1, 1992	July 31, 1996
SINGH, Surendra, (India)	August 1, 1996	July 31, 1999
SINGH, Balmiki Prasad (India)	August 1, 1999	July 31, 2002 PD to August 14, 2002
VASUDEV, Chander, (India)	August 1, 2002	October 31, 2005 PD to November 14, 2005
KUMAR, Dhanendra, (India)	November 1, 2005	February 11, 2009
CHATTERJI, Pulok (India)	February 1, 2009	September 26, 2011

PRASAD, Mukesh N., (India)	September 30, 2011	October 31, 2014
GARG, Subhash, (India)	November 1, 2014	July 12, 2017
SUBRAMANI, Aparna, (India)	September 1, 2017	August 31, 2020
KHULLAR, Rajesh, (India)	November 1, 2020	present

For More Information

If you would like information or guidance on accessing more historic sources, we invite you to contact us by emailing archives@worldbank.org.