

# India size and location

---

## Set 1

### **Section A: Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) :-**

1. What is the total land area of India?
  - a) 3.28 million sq. km
  - b) 2.42 million sq. km
  - c) 5.67 million sq. km
  - d) 4.52 million sq. km
  
2. Which of the following is the southernmost point of India?
  - a) Kanyakumari
  - b) Indira Point
  - c) Lakshadweep
  - d) Nicobar Island
  
3. Which latitude divides India into almost two equal parts?
  - a) Tropic of Cancer
  - b) Equator
  - c) Arctic Circle
  - d) Tropic of Capricorn
  
4. India shares land boundaries with how many countries?
  - a) 5
  - b) 7
  - c) 6
  - d) 8
  
5. What is the time difference between Arunachal Pradesh and Gujarat?
  - a) 1 hour
  - b) 2 hours
  - c) 30 minutes
  - d) 2.5 hours

6. What is the longitudinal extent of India?

- a)  $8^{\circ}4'N$  to  $37^{\circ}6'N$
- b)  $68^{\circ}7'E$  to  $97^{\circ}25'E$
- c)  $82^{\circ}30'E$  to  $92^{\circ}30'E$
- d)  $66^{\circ}7'E$  to  $98^{\circ}25'E$

7. Which meridian is taken as the Indian Standard Time (IST)?

- a)  $68^{\circ}7'E$
- b)  $77^{\circ}6'E$
- c)  $82^{\circ}30'E$
- d)  $97^{\circ}25'E$

8. India lies entirely in which hemisphere?

- a) Eastern and Northern
- b) Southern and Eastern
- c) Northern and Western
- d) Southern and Western

9. Which of the following islands lies to the west of the Indian mainland?

- a) Andaman
- b) Nicobar
- c) Lakshadweep
- d) Maldives

10. India is bounded by the Himalayas in the:

- a) East
- b) West
- c) South
- d) North

## Section B: Fill in the Blanks :-

1. The southernmost point of India is \_\_\_\_\_.
2. India has a land frontier of about \_\_\_\_\_ km.
3. The Tropic of Cancer passes through \_\_\_\_\_ Indian states.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ is the smallest Union Territory of India.
5. The easternmost state of India is \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The time lag between Arunachal Pradesh and Gujarat is about \_\_\_\_\_ hours.
7. The standard meridian of India is \_\_\_\_\_.

8. \_\_\_\_\_ Ocean lies to the south of India.
9. India's total area accounts for about \_\_\_\_\_% of the total geographical area of the world.
10. The state located on the easternmost longitude of India is \_\_\_\_\_.

### Section C: True/False

1. The Tropic of Capricorn passes through India.
2. India is located in the Northern Hemisphere.
3. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands are located in the Arabian Sea.
4. The mainland of India extends between 8°4'N and 37°6'N latitudes.
5. The longitudinal extent of India is from 68°7'E to 97°25'E.
6. India does not share borders with Myanmar.
7. Kanyakumari is the southernmost point of India's mainland.
8. India is the seventh-largest country in the world.
9. India has 28 states and 8 Union Territories.
10. The Indian Standard Time is based on 82°30' E longitude.

### Answer

MCQs :-

1-a, 2-b, 3-a, 4-b, 5-a, 6-b, 7-c, 8-a, 9-c, 10-d

Fill in the blanks :-

1. Indira Point
2. 15,200
3. 8
4. Lakshadweep
5. Arunachal Pradesh
6. 2
7. 82°30' E
8. Indian
9. 2.4%
10. Arunachal Pradesh

True/False :-

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| 1. False | 6. False |
| 2. True  | 7. True  |
| 3. False | 8. True  |
| 4. True  | 9. True  |
| 5. True  | 10. True |

## Section D: 30–50 Words Answers

1. What is the latitudinal extent of India?

Ans: India stretches from 8°4'N to 37°6'N latitude. This vast north-south extent affects the country's climate, vegetation, and cultural diversity.

2. What is the significance of the Tropic of Cancer for India?

Ans: The Tropic of Cancer (23°30'N) divides India into two almost equal parts and significantly influences the climate by marking the boundary between tropical and subtropical zones.

3. What is the importance of India's central location?

Ans: India's central location at the head of the Indian Ocean gives it strategic advantages for sea trade routes, connecting East Asia with Europe and Africa.

4. Why is the time lag between Gujarat and Arunachal Pradesh about 2 hours?

Ans: Due to India's wide longitudinal spread, the sun rises earlier in the east (Arunachal Pradesh) and later in the west (Gujarat), creating a two-hour difference.

5. Name the neighboring countries of India.

Ans: India shares borders with Pakistan, Afghanistan, China, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, and Myanmar.

6. What is the importance of 82°30' E meridian?

Ans: 82°30' E longitude is the Standard Meridian of India. It helps maintain a uniform time across the country as Indian Standard Time (IST).

7. Why is India called a subcontinent?

Ans: India is called a subcontinent due to its vast size, distinct geographical features, and cultural uniqueness from the rest of Asia.

8. Where is India located in terms of latitude and longitude?

Ans: India lies between 8°4'N and 37°6'N latitude and 68°7'E and 97°25'E longitude, in the Northern and Eastern hemispheres.

9. What is the significance of India's coastline?

Ans: India has a long coastline of 7,516.6 km, which supports trade, fishing, tourism, and provides access to international maritime routes.

10. What is meant by the term "mainland India"?

Ans: Mainland India refers to the continental part of the country, excluding its islands like Andaman and Lakshadweep.

## Section E: 10 Questions (80–100 Words Answers)

1. Explain how India's geographical location is favorable for international trade.

Answer:

India's location at the head of the Indian Ocean makes it a natural hub for international trade. It connects the East and West through both land and sea routes. Its long coastline with major ports like Mumbai, Chennai, and Kolkata supports maritime trade. The Suez Canal further reduces the travel time to Europe, strengthening India's global trade links.

2. What is the significance of the Tropic of Cancer for India?

Answer (Point-wise):

- Divides India into tropical and subtropical zones.
- Passes through 8 states including Gujarat, Rajasthan, and West Bengal.
- Affects climate, vegetation, and agriculture patterns.
- Determines the intensity of the sun's rays and duration of days.
- Influences seasonal weather variation.

3. Describe the impact of India's latitudinal extent on its climate.

Answer:

India's north-south extent ( $8^{\circ}4'N$  to  $37^{\circ}6'N$ ) causes great climatic variation. The southern region receives more solar energy due to proximity to the equator, resulting in a tropical climate. The northern areas experience a subtropical and even temperate climate in the Himalayas. This difference affects rainfall, vegetation, and lifestyle across the country.

4. Write a short note on India's time lag and standard meridian.

Answer (Point-wise):

- India's east-west extent causes about 2-hour time difference.
- Arunachal Pradesh sees sunrise 2 hours before Gujarat.
- To maintain uniformity,  $82^{\circ}30' E$  is selected as the Standard Meridian.
- Indian Standard Time (IST) is calculated based on this longitude.
- Helps maintain one standard time across the country.

5. Explain why India is called a subcontinent.

Answer:

India is called a subcontinent because of its vast geographical size, cultural diversity, and distinct natural features. It has the Himalayas in the north, plateaus in the south, deserts in the west, and fertile plains in the north. It is also culturally unique from other Asian regions, which makes it a subcontinent.

6. Name the countries that share land boundaries with India and mention any four.

Answer (Point-wise):

- India shares borders with 7 countries:
  - Pakistan
  - China
  - Nepal
  - Bhutan
  - Bangladesh
  - Myanmar
  - Afghanistan (via PoK)
- Major boundary lengths are with Bangladesh and China.
- These borders impact security, trade, and diplomacy.

7. Mention any five advantages of India's central location.

Answer (Point-wise):

- Facilitates trade between East and West.
- Easy sea connectivity via Indian Ocean.
- Cultural exchange across Asia.
- Strategic military advantage.
- Connects land routes to Central and Western Asia.

8. Describe the extent of India's mainland and coastline.

Answer:

India's mainland stretches from 8°4'N to 37°6'N latitude and 68°7'E to 97°25'E longitude. The total land area is about 3.28 million sq. km, making it the 7th largest country in the world. The country has a vast coastline of 7,516.6 km, which supports trade, fishing, and tourism.

9. What role does the Himalayas play in shaping India's geography?

Answer:

The Himalayas form the natural northern boundary of India. They protect the country from cold Central Asian winds, preventing freezing winters in the plains. They are the source of perennial rivers like the Ganga, act as a climatic barrier for monsoon winds, and also provide rich biodiversity.

10. Why is the southern part of India warmer than the northern part?

Answer:

The southern part of India lies closer to the equator, which receives vertical sun rays throughout the year. This results in a warm tropical climate. In contrast, the northern region lies farther from the equator and also has the Himalayan barrier, which causes cold winters and a subtropical climate.

## **Section F: 10 Questions (100–150 Words Answers)**

1. Describe the size and location of India in the world.

Answer:

India is the seventh-largest country in the world in terms of area, covering approximately 3.28 million square kilometers. It lies entirely in the Northern and Eastern Hemispheres. The mainland extends from 8°4'N to 37°6'N latitude and 68°7'E to 97°25'E longitude. India is located in South Asia and is bounded by the Himalayas in the north, the Indian Ocean in the south, the Arabian Sea in the west, and the Bay of Bengal in the east. It shares land borders with seven countries and has a vast coastline of 7,516.6 km, which boosts trade and cultural exchange. Its location at the head of the Indian Ocean makes it strategically and economically significant.

2. Explain the significance of India's location at the head of the Indian Ocean.

Answer (Point-wise):

- Controls major sea routes between the East and West.
- Facilitates trade with Europe, Africa, and Southeast Asia.
- Offers naval strategic advantage.
- Links ports like Mumbai, Chennai, and Kochi to global routes.
- Supports cultural exchange and connectivity with other nations.
- Enables India to play a vital role in international politics.
- Enhances tourism, fishing, and maritime activities.

3. How does India's latitudinal extent affect its physical and cultural diversity?

Answer:

India's latitudinal extent from 8°4'N to 37°6'N covers both tropical and subtropical zones. This creates significant climatic variation, from hot tropical conditions in the south to temperate climate in the north. It affects vegetation, crops, and animal life, resulting in multiple biodiversity zones. Cultural diversity is also influenced, as different climatic conditions lead to varied clothing, food habits, festivals, and lifestyles. For example, southern regions have coconut-based diets and cotton clothing, while northern areas may wear woollens and grow wheat. This geographical spread is a major reason behind India's rich and vibrant diversity.

4. What are the effects of India's vast coastline on its development?

Answer (Point-wise):

- Supports sea trade and international commerce.
- Encourages fishing industries in coastal states.
- Promotes tourism (e.g., Goa, Kerala, Andaman).
- Facilitates port development (Mumbai, Chennai, etc.).
- Enables cultural and economic interaction with foreign nations.
- Helps in naval defense and maritime security.
- Coastal agriculture and salt production benefit as well.

5. Why is there a time lag in India and how is it solved?

Answer:

India spans about 30° of longitude from east to west, causing a time lag of 2 hours between Arunachal Pradesh in the east and Gujarat in the west. To avoid confusion and ensure uniformity of time, India follows a single time zone, called Indian Standard Time (IST), based on 82°30'E longitude. This meridian passes through Mirzapur in Uttar Pradesh and is taken as the standard for the entire country. Although IST helps maintain administrative efficiency, there are still debates about the need for a dual time zone for better productivity in the northeast region.

6. List the countries sharing land boundaries with India and mention the border lengths.

Answer (Point-wise):

- Bangladesh – shares the longest border (~4,096 km)
- China – about 3,488 km
- Pakistan – around 3,323 km
- Nepal – approx. 1,751 km
- Myanmar – nearly 1,643 km
- Bhutan – around 699 km
- Afghanistan – 106 km (in PoK region)
- These borders are significant for security, trade, and diplomatic relations.

7. What is the role of the Himalayas in shaping India's geography and climate?

Answer:

The Himalayas are the youngest and tallest mountain range in the world and form the northern boundary of India. They block cold winds from Central Asia, making northern India warmer in winter than other areas on the same latitude. They cause orographic rainfall by intercepting monsoon winds. They are the source of major rivers like the Ganga, Yamuna, and Brahmaputra, which support agriculture. These mountains are rich in natural resources, forests, and biodiversity. They also act as a natural defense barrier, protecting India from invasions historically.

8. Why is the Tropic of Cancer important for India? Name the states it passes through.



Answer (Point-wise):

- Divides India into almost two equal halves.
- Separates tropical south from subtropical north.
- Influences climate, rainfall, agriculture, and day length.

Passes through 8 states:

1. Gujarat
2. Rajasthan
3. Madhya Pradesh
4. Chhattisgarh
5. Jharkhand
6. West Bengal
7. Tripura
8. Mizoram

9. What is the strategic importance of India's position in South Asia?

Answer:

India is located in the heart of South Asia and shares borders with most South Asian countries, making it a central player in regional politics and economy. It connects Central Asia to Southeast Asia and influences trade, security, and cultural links. India is the largest economy and military power in the region, contributing to leadership roles in organizations like SAARC. Its access to the Indian Ocean gives it naval superiority and control over critical sea routes. This strategic location strengthens India's global diplomatic and economic importance.

10. Differentiate between mainland India and island territories.

Answer:

Feature	Main land	Island territories
Location	Continental landmass	In Arabian sea and Bay of Bengal
Explanmle	Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan	Andaman & Nicobar, lakshadweep
Size	Much larger	Comparatively smaller
Use	Agriculture, industrial, defense	Tourism, naval bases, biodiversity
Climate	Varies from tropical to temperate	Mainly tropical coastland

## Section G: 5 Case Study-Based Questions with Answers

### Case Study 1: India's Location and Trade Routes :-

India lies between East and West Asia. Its location at the head of the Indian Ocean makes it a centre for maritime trade. Major sea routes pass close to its southern tip, and ports like Mumbai, Chennai, and Kolkata connect India with the rest of the world. Even before independence, India had trade relations with Europe, Arabia, and Southeast Asia.

Questions:

1. Why is India's location considered strategic for trade?
2. Name any two ports that help in international trade.
3. Which ocean surrounds India in the south?

Answers:

1.
  - It connects East and West through the Indian Ocean.
  - Important sea routes pass near southern India.
  - Central location helps trade with Africa, Europe, and Southeast Asia.
2. Mumbai and Chennai (Any two from Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Kochi, etc.)
3. Indian Ocean.

### Case Study 2: India's Longitudinal Spread

India's longitudinal extent is from  $68^{\circ}7'E$  to  $97^{\circ}25'E$ . This wide extent causes a time lag of about 2 hours between Arunachal Pradesh in the east and Gujarat in the west. However, the country follows one time zone based on the Standard Meridian ( $82^{\circ}30'E$ ), which passes through Mirzapur in Uttar Pradesh.

Questions:

1. What is the total time lag between eastern and western parts of India?
2. What is India's Standard Meridian?
3. Why does India follow only one time zone?

Answers:

1. 2 hours.
2.  $82^{\circ}30'E$  longitude (passes through Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh).
3. To maintain uniform time across the country for convenience in administration, travel, and communication.

### Case Study 3: The Role of Himalayas

The Himalayas form a natural boundary in the north of India. These young fold mountains protect India from cold Central Asian winds and also bring heavy rainfall by forcing monsoon clouds to rise. They are the source of many rivers like Ganga and Yamuna and support rich biodiversity.

Questions:

1. How do the Himalayas protect India's climate?
2. Name any two rivers that originate from the Himalayas.

3. How do the Himalayas affect rainfall in India?

Answers:

1.

- They block cold winds from Central Asia, keeping northern India warmer.
- They prevent freezing winters.

2. Ganga and Yamuna.

3. They cause orographic rainfall by forcing moist monsoon winds to rise and condense.



#### Case Study 4: India's Diversity due to Latitudinal Spread

India stretches from 8°4'N to 37°6'N latitude, which brings great climatic variation. The southern region experiences a tropical climate while the northern part is subtropical and even temperate in the Himalayas. This variation leads to differences in food, clothing, housing, and lifestyle across regions.

Questions:

1. What is the latitudinal extent of India?
2. How does this extent affect India's climate?
3. Give one example of diversity caused by climatic variation.

Answers:

1. 8°4'N to 37°6'N.

2.

- South is warmer due to proximity to the equator.
- North experiences colder winters.
- Different climatic zones lead to varied weather patterns.

3. People in Kashmir wear woollens; in Kerala, cotton is worn due to heat.



#### Case Study 5: India's Neighbours and Borders

India shares land boundaries with seven countries – Pakistan, China, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, and Afghanistan (via PoK). These borders play an important role in trade, cultural exchange, and security. The longest border is shared with Bangladesh, and the smallest with Afghanistan.

Questions:

1. How many countries share land boundaries with India?
2. With which country does India share the longest border?
3. Why are international borders important?

Answers:

1. 7 countries.

2. Bangladesh (~4096 km).

3. Borders help in trade, tourism, cultural exchange, and national security.