



INDIA – SIZE AND LOCATION

- India is one of the ancient civilizations in the world.
- It has achieved multi- faceted socioeconomic progress during the last five decades.

01 Location of India

- India lies entirely in the Northern Hemisphere.
- latitudes $\rightarrow 8^{\circ}4'N$ and $37^{\circ}6'N$
- longitudes $\rightarrow 68^{\circ}7'E$ and $97^{\circ}25'E$
- The Tropic of Cancer ($23^{\circ} 30'N$) divides India into two almost equal parts —
- southeast--- Andaman and Nicobar islands in Bay of Bengal and
- southwest of the mainland-- Lakshadweep islands in Arabian Sea
- The southernmost point of the Indian Union– 'Indira Point' (submerged under water in 2004)
- Indira Col is India's northernmost point.

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02 Size of India

- Area \rightarrow 3.28 million square kilometres • 2.4% of the total geographical area of the world.
- World's 7th largest country • Land boundary \rightarrow 15,200 km • Total length of the coastline, including Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep \rightarrow 7,516.6 km.
- India is bounded by the young fold mountains in the northwest, north and northeast. South of about 22° north latitude, it begins to taper, and extends towards the Indian Ocean, dividing it into two seas, the Arabian Sea on the west and the Bay of Bengal on its east.
- India has longest coast line with Indian Ocean-only Ocean named after a country.
- From Gujarat to Arunachal Pradesh, \rightarrow time lag of two hours.
- Standard Meridian of India ($82^{\circ}30'E$) passing through Mirzapur (in Uttar Pradesh)

03 India and the World

- The Indian landmass is centrally located between West and East Asia.
- Deccan Peninsula helped India to establish close contacts with West Asia, Africa and Europe, South-east and East Asia.
- Contacts with the world via land routes are much more than her maritime contacts.
- Contributed a lot to the world in forms of ideas, philosophies (Upanishads, Ramayana, Panchtantra) and mathematics (Indian numerals and decimal system).
- In exchange, India's architecture was influenced by Greek sculpture and architectural styles from West Asia.
- Since the opening of the **Suez Canal in 1869**, India's distance from Europe has been reduced by 7,000 km.

04 India's Neighbours

- India has an important position in South Asia and has 28 States and 8 Union Territories.
- India shares its land boundaries with Pakistan and Afghanistan in the northwest, China (Tibet), Nepal and Bhutan in the north and Myanmar and Bangladesh in the east. Our southern neighbours across the sea consist of the two island countries, namely Sri Lanka and Maldives.
- Sri Lanka is separated from India by a narrow channel of sea formed by the Palk Strait and the Gulf of Mannar, while Maldives Islands are situated to the south of the Lakshadweep Islands.

