

# 1

## GEOGRAPHY

# India—Size and Location

Contemporary India - I  
(NCERT Book)



The largest and most important continent in the world is Asia and India is its southern extension. It boasts an abundance of cultural and socioeconomic diversity. Indians came from a highly advanced and esteemed civilisation. India's rich history and culture have been centered on its physical position. Indian people have been preserving cultural and business ties with numerous nations worldwide because of its special location and geographic circumstances.

### **Topic Notes**

- Location
- Size
- India and the World
- Our Neighbouring Countries

India is considered an extremely significant nation in Asia owing to its central position—its geography, its economic and diplomatic relationships and its centrality to international trade routes.

The chapter deals with India's location, size and its relationship with its neighbours, other countries and economies. This chapter throws some light upon the physiological divisions of the country briefly.

# TOPIC 1

## LOCATION

## Learning Objectives

- Students will read about the unique location of India in Asia— its longitudinal and latitudinal extent.
  - Students will learn about the names of states, union territories and islands which are a part of Indian territory but not connected to its mainland.
  - Students will read about the Tropic of Cancer and its location with respect to India.
  - Students will learn more about the internal geographical divisions of the Indian mainland.

## Learning Outcomes

- Students will be able to understand how climate and time of a place are affected by latitudes and longitudes of a place.
  - Students will be able to know more about the Tropic of Cancer, and the states through which it passes in India.
  - Students will be able to learn about the geography of India through pictures.

India is a vast country which lies entirely in the Northern hemisphere, extending between the latitudes 8°4'N and 37°6'N and the longitudes 68°7'E and 97°25'E. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Lakshadweep Islands are located in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea, respectively, to the southeast and southwest of the mainland.

**Caution**

- The students must not be confused between latitudes and longitudes. Latitudes implies the geographic coordinates that determine the distance of a point, north-south of the equator. The higher the value of a latitude, the closer it is to the North or the South Pole. Longitudes alludes to the geographic coordinates, which identify the distance of a point, east-west of the Prime Meridian.

### Important

- Indira Point, previously the southernmost point of India, located on the island of Great Nicobar was submerged under the sea water in 2004 during the tsunami.

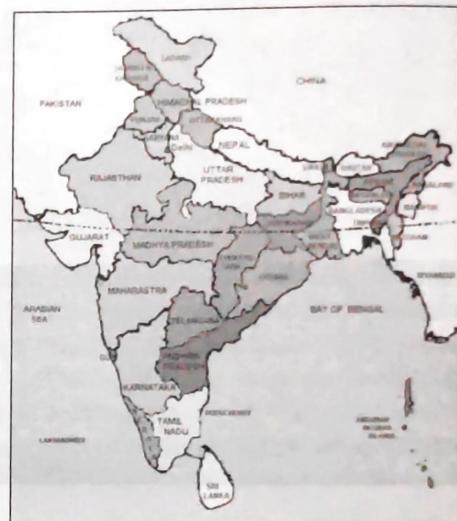
The Tropic of Cancer ( $23^{\circ}30'N$ ) bifurcates the country almost evenly.

**Example 1.** The Tropic of Cancer  $23\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}\text{N}$  latitude divides India into two parts. How many States does it pass through?



**Ans.** (b) 8

**Explanation:** The Tropic of Cancer passes through 8 states in India namely Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Tripura and Mizoram.



### **Indian states through which Tropic of Cancer Passes**

 Mnemonics

- Indian states through which the Tropic of Cancer passes.
  - Rajiv Gandhi Made Chief Justice to Wait for The Meeting
  - R - Rajasthan
  - G - Gujarat
  - M - Madhya pradesh
  - C - Chattisgarh
  - J - Jharkhand
  - W - West Bengal
  - T - Tripura
  - M - Mizoram

### **Caution**

→ Students usually get confused between the Tropic of Cancer and Tropic of Capricorn. They must remember that the Tropic of Cancer lies  $23^{\circ}26'$  north of the equator and the Tropic of Capricorn lies to the  $23^{\circ}26'$  south of the equator.

● **Latitudes affect the temperature** of a location. Places located at higher latitudes are generally colder than those located at lower latitudes. Places close to the equator (at lower latitudes) receive more heat/sun rays than those at the pole.

**Longitudes affect the time of a location.** To calculate the actual time at a place, one needs to know its

longitudinal details. Places located far away from the  $0^{\circ}$  longitude have a greater time difference than those located close to it.



### **Frequently Asked**

→ India lies to the east of GMT which is  $0^{\circ}$ E, our time is ahead of GMT. Since our standard time is as per the longitude-  $82^{\circ}30'E$ . So, the time difference between GMT and at  $82^{\circ}30'E$  is:

$$82^{\circ}30'E = 82 \frac{1}{2} \times 4 = 330 \text{ min}$$

(Every longitude has a recorded time difference of 4 min)  
Hence, our time is 5.30 hrs. (330 min) ahead of GMT.

## **TOPIC 2**

### **SIZE**

#### **Learning Objectives**

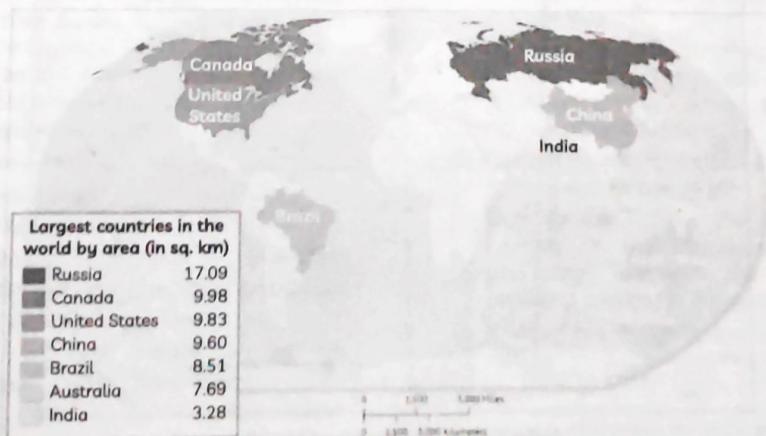
- Students will briefly learn about the various geographical and physiological features possessed by India.
- Students will learn more about the system of calculation of time in the world— using the Prime Meridian and the Standard Meridian.
- Students will learn more about the size of India in comparison to world.

#### **Learning Outcomes**

- Students will be able to recall details regarding the size of India and compare the total land it occupies with that of other countries.
- Students will be able to learn more about the geographical boundaries of India.
- Students will be able to understand the concept of standard time.
- Students will be able to calculate time at a given locations if they know its latitudes.
- Students will be able to learn about the differences in day and night caused because of the vast latitudinal extent of India.

The total area covered by the Indian landmass is 3.28 million sq. km. It accounts for about 2.4% of the total geographical area of the world. It has a land boundary of 15,200 km and a coastline

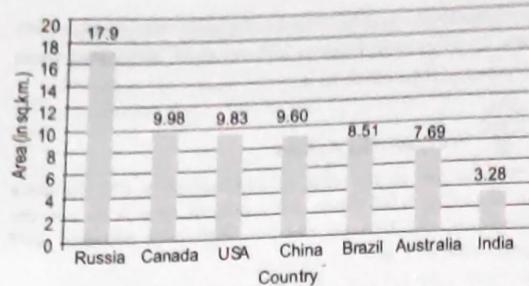
of about, 7516.6 km (including that of the islands). It is the seventh-largest country in the world after Russia, Canada, USA, China, Brazil and Australia.



**Top 7 largest countries**

● Extra content given according to the latest syllabus uploaded by CBSE.





#### Largest Countries of the World (Area Wise)

India has been endowed with a variety of physical features like mountains, rivers, plateaus, deserts, plains, and islands.

The young fold Himalayan Mountains form the boundary of India in the northwest, north and northeast. The Himalayas separate the Indian peninsula from mainland Asia. India is surrounded by three large waterbodies the Arabian Sea, the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean in the south.

India, widest in the north, tapers off towards the Indian Ocean between the Bay of Bengal on the east and the Arabian Sea on the west.

From Gujarat to Arunachal Pradesh, there is a time lag of two hours. This is caused due to the vast latitudinal extent of India.

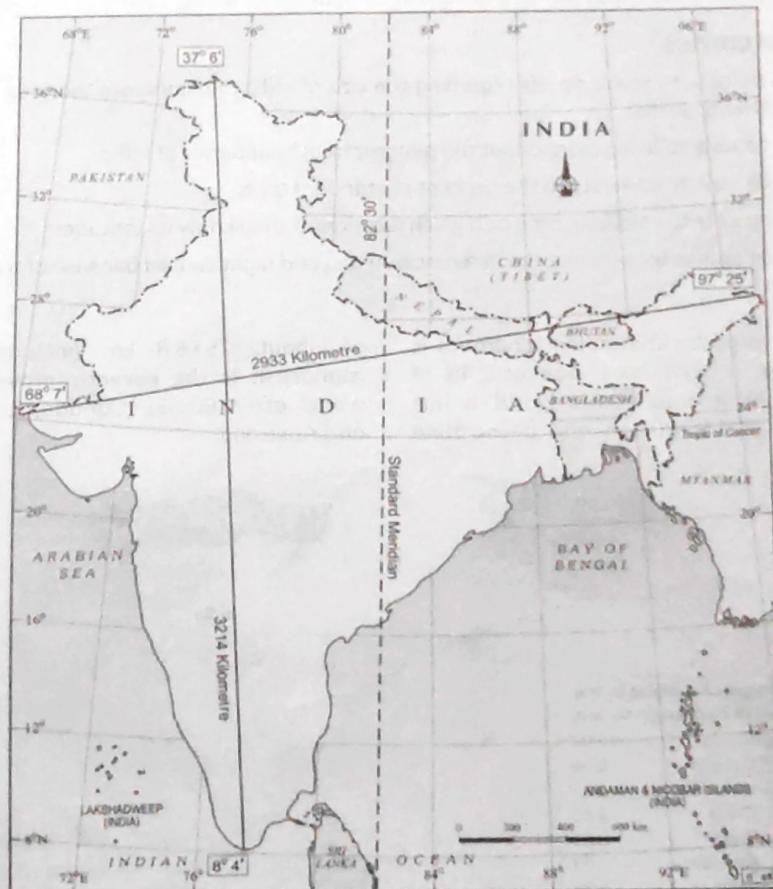
The Standard Meridian of India, which passes through Mirzapur in Uttar Pradesh and has a longitude of  $82^{\circ}30'E$ , is used to determine a standard time for the whole country to avoid any confusion and enable efficient administration.

#### Important

→ Standard time refers to the synchronisation of clocks within a geographical area to a single standard time.

#### Example 2. Why has $82^{\circ}30'E$ been selected as the Standard Meridian of India? (Understand) [NCERT]

**Ans.** The westernmost longitude of India is  $68^{\circ}7'E$  lies in Gujarat and easternmost is  $97^{\circ}25'E$  in Arunachal Pradesh, which causes a time delay of two hours from Gujarat to Arunachal Pradesh. To evade confusion and to possess a standard time for reference, the  $82^{\circ}30' E$  Longitude which exactly divides the country into two equal parts was chosen as the standard meridian of India.



India: Extent and Standard Meridian

### Caution

→ Students must not be confused between Greenwich Meridian and the Standard Meridian of India. Greenwich Meridian is the mutually decided imaginary reference line with respect to which all countries calculate their time. The Standard Meridian of India was decided with reference to the Greenwich Meridian.



### Frequently Asked

→ The latitudinal and longitudinal extent of mainland India is about 30°. However, the east-west extent appears to be smaller than the north-south extent. The difference in day and night is felt in Kashmir more as compared to Kanyakumari.

**Example 3.** Why the difference between the duration of day and night hardly felt at Kanyakumari, but not so in Kashmir? (Understand) [NCERT]

**Ans.** At the equator, day and night are approximately equal in length. Kanyakumari is closer to the equator and at 8°4'N, the difference in duration of day and night is only one hour and is barely discernible. Because Kashmir is more than 30 degrees north of the equator, the variation in day and night lengths is greater and is clearly felt. This is because of its distance from the equator.

### Example 4. Case Based:

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

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. The east coast of India is shared by states beginning Gujarat and moving southwards till Kerala. While the west coast is shared by states beginning West Bengal and moving southwards up to Tamil Nadu.

(A) When you look at the physical map of Asia, you will see that in the north of India there runs straight mountain chains from Jammu and Kashmir to the north-east almost like a wall barrier between India and central Asia. Identify this mountain range.

- (a) Aravalli range
  - (b) Vindhya range
  - (c) Himalaya range
  - (d) Satpura range
- (Analyse)

(B) Which of the following states does not lie on the west coast of India?

- (a) Goa
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Tamil Nadu

(Remember)

(C) How does a state's location affect its expenditure on water transport? (Analyse)

(D) How is the variety of physiological features found in India helpful to the country? (Understand)

(E) Assertion (A): India is the seventh largest country of the world.

Reason (R): India has a large population.

- (a) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- (b) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (c) (A) is correct but (R) is wrong.
- (d) (A) is wrong but (R) is correct. (Analyse)

**Ans.** (A) (c) Himalaya range

**Explanation:** The Himalayan range forms a crown and a natural barrier for the Indian mainland and separates it from the rest of the continent.

The barrier protects it from cold Siberian winds from Siberia and other parts of northern Russia.

(B) (d) Tamil Nadu

**Explanation:** The west coast of India is marked by Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka and Kerala. Tamil Nadu lies on the east coast and not on the west coast.

- (C) (1) If a state lies on the coast, then it can develop ports from where shipments can be sent and received from around the world.
- (2) If a state lies far away from the coast, then it has to bear the additional cost of taking the shipments from and to the coastal state.

(D) The variety of physiological features found in India is very helpful to the country in the following ways:

- (1) Various features lead to diverse lifestyles and food habits. Every region in the country produces different crops according to its unique geographical conditions.
- (2) These features also help in enhancing the trade. They lead to economic development since they support various resources.

(E) (b) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

**Explanation:** India is the seventh largest country in the world—area wise. Its population makes it the second most populous country in the world.

It does not make it the seventh largest nation.

### Caution

→ It is important to remember the facts and figures given in the chapter. Questions can be directly asked regarding the same.



## TOPIC 3

# INDIA AND THE WORLD

### Learning Objectives

- Students will understand the significance of India regarding its position and contribution to the world.
- Students will read about the trade relationships maintained by India by other Asian countries and with other continents.
- Students will be introduced to the Suez Canal.

### Learning Outcomes

- Students will be able to recall details about India's oceanic routes.
- Students will be able to learn about the significance of India's soft power (its culture) and its position across the world.
- Students will be able to understand about the relationships between India and other trade centers from medieval times.
- Students will be able to write about silk route and its significance.

India is centrally located between East and West Asia. It is a southward extension of the continent thus enabling the country to establish close contact with West Asia, Africa and Europe from the western coast and with Southeast and East Asia from the eastern coast.

India has the largest coastline along the Indian Ocean, thus giving it a significant position to trade and form political relationships with countries across the world. It is India's eminent position in the Indian Ocean, which justifies the naming of an ocean after it.

### India and its Trade Relations

The trans-Indian oceanic routes provide India the central position with regards to trade and commerce of the world.

India was the centre of world trade for centuries during the medieval period.

India's land routes predate its marine routes. Ancient travellers used paths which cut across the Northern Mountains for transportation because the seas and oceans had previously limited such contact. Our country has a long history of trade with Chinese, Egyptian and Mesopotamian civilisations.

The Deccan Peninsula juts out into the Indian Ocean, allowing India to maintain close ties with West Asia, Africa, and Europe on the western shore, and Southeast and East Asia on the eastern shore.

India is a formidable land bound by the Himalayas, in the north. Indian traders and merchants managed to trade despite the peaks of Himalayas, through passes cut across the peaks and valleys. These passes also provided passage to various explorers travellers and missionaries across centuries.

The Silk Route of China also passes through these passes. The Indian Ocean which surrounds the southern part of India connects it to the Gulf of Persia, Red Sea, Africa and south-east Asian countries like Indonesia,

Thailand, Myanmar, etc. In the medieval times, Indian trade flourished through these sea routes.

These routes have been responsible for the following:

- Ideas and commodities have travelled to and fro from India since ancient times through these routes- both land and marine.
- The ideas and philosophy of the *Upanishads* and the *Ramayana*, the stories of *Panchtantra*, the Indian numeral and decimal system reached many parts of the world through these routes too. Thus, India managed to maintain excellent historical, cultural and religious ties with its neighbours and with various other countries across the world.
- These routes have also been responsible for the trade and transport of spices, muslin and other merchandise from India to different countries.
- The influence of Greek and Roman art forms (sculpture, architecture, painting and other forms of art) and other architectural styles of domes and minarets from West Asia were also adapted from the West. This influence also came to India through these routes.

### Important

→ **Suez Canal** is a man-made canal. It links the Mediterranean Sea with the Red Sea and is operated by the Egyptian government.

India's distance from Europe has been reduced by 7,000 kilometres since the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869.

**Example 5.** Collect information about the 'Silk Route'. Also find out the new developments, which are improving communication routes in the regions of high altitude. (Analyse) [NCERT Activity]

**Ans.** The Silk Route has historical significance between China and the Mediterranean Sea. It was an important international commercial route.

- (1) China manufactured vast quantities of silk and sold it to Western countries via this route.
- (2) The traditional Silk Route was created to connect the East and the West. It encouraged people to share their cultural heritage.
- (3) In recent years, a number of innovative advancements have occurred that have improved communication pathways in high-altitude areas.
- (4) Roadways have been developed and can be driven on. Railway lines are being built through bridges, tunnels, and caves, among other things.
- (5) Telephones, satellite phones, cell phones, and other forms of communication are also available in these areas.

## TOPIC 4

### OUR NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

#### Learning Objectives

- Students will understand the significance of India regarding its position in the continent.
- Students will learn more about India's neighbouring nations.
- Students will learn more about the world map.

#### Learning Outcomes

- Students will be able to recall more details about India's eminent position in the world.
- Students will be able to learn about other countries in the world.
- Students will be able to remember the geographical boundaries of India— its neighbours and its friends.
- Students will be able to reproduce the map of South-Asia after studying about the position of India and its neighbours.

India is a South Asian country. India's neighbours are Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Maldives. These countries are also members of an economic organisation called the SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) along with Afghanistan.

India shares land boundaries with Pakistan and Afghanistan in the north western side, China, Nepal, and Bhutan in the north-east; Bangladesh and Myanmar in eastern side. It shares maritime boundaries with Sri Lanka and Maldives on the south side.

India shares the longest border with Bangladesh and the smallest border with Afghanistan.

#### Important

- Sri Lanka is separated from India by a narrow channel of sea formed by the Palk Strait and the Gulf of Mannar.
- Maldives is situated to the south of the Lakshadweep Islands.



#### Mnemonics

→ India's land sharing neighboring countries.

**BaChPaN ka MBA**

Ba - Bangladesh

Ch - China

Pa - Pakistan

N - Nepal

M - Myanmar

B - Bhutan

A - Afghanistan

⦿ For centuries, India's rich heritage and culture has had an extremely deep and strong impact upon its neighbouring nations in South Asia. Many symbolic remnants of India's influence are clearly visible in their art, architecture, lifestyles, dressing styles, cuisines and other practices. Through the centuries, India has been a source of inspiration for art and architecture in Nepal and Bhutan. People belonging to both countries follow the Buddhist religion in large numbers which was born in India. Some influences of this religion can be felt in Tibet and China too.

⦿ Pakistan, Bangladesh and India share almost common cultures and traditional influences. Even today, citizens of the three countries continue to believe in similar religious, political and social ideas. Sri Lanka and India share extremely significant religious ties which have been localised but are still deeply embedded in their belief systems. For example, even though Hinduism stemmed from India, Southeast Asian nations created many literary works based on the Ramayana (a Hindu epic) but with some parts distinctively their own being discernable in them.

⦿ India's cultural conquests have been peaceful and without any forced conversions.

⦿ Extra content given according to the latest syllabus uploaded by CBSE



**Example 6. Case Based:**

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

The Indian landmass has a central location between East and West Asia. India is a southward extension of the Asian continent. The trans-Indian Ocean routes, which connect the countries of Europe in the West and the countries of East Asia, provide a strategic central location to India. Note that the Deccan Peninsula protrudes into the Indian Ocean, thus helping India to establish close contact with West Asia, Africa and Europe from the western coast and with Southeast and East Asia from the eastern coast. No other country has such a long coastline on the Indian Ocean as India has and indeed it is India's eminent position in the Indian Ocean, which justifies the naming of an Ocean after it.



**Ans. (A) (d) India**

**Explanation:** India has the longest coastline on the Indian Ocean.

- (B) (c) Pacific Ocean

**Explanation:** It can be easily seen on the world map that South East Asia lies between Pacific and Indian Oceans. Therefore, the Pacific Ocean and Indian Ocean lie to the east and west of South East Asia respectively.

- (C) The trans-Indian Ocean routes connect the countries of Europe in the West and the countries of East Asia in the east to India and South East Asia.

- (D) A long coastline is extremely significant to a country because:

- (1) It facilitates international trade to and from the countries located on its respective coasts.
  - (2) A long coastline also opens up huge avenues for exploitation of maritime resources, for example - fishes, oceanic resources, etc.

- (E) (c) (A) is correct but (R) is wrong.

**Explanation:** India has a long coastline along the Indian Ocean. Indian Ocean is named after India because it has the longest coastline along the ocean and India is centrally located in it. The Indian Ocean gets most of its traffic due to India's trading relationships with the rest of the country.

**Example 7.** Abhishek's classmate hails from a country which does not share land boundary with India. Identify the country.



**Ans:** (c) Tajikistan

**Explanation:** India only shares land boundaries with Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal, Bhutan, China, Bangladesh and Myanmar. Tajikistan is a central Asian country.



India has 28 states and 8 union territories. Rajasthan is the largest state in India area wise, Goa is the smallest state.

### Important

Before 1947, there were two types of states in India the Provinces and the Princely states.

→ Provinces were ruled directly by British officials, who were appointed by the Viceroy.

→ Provinces states were ruled by local, hereditary rulers, who acknowledged sovereignty in return for local autonomy.

→ After Independence, the provinces and princely states were integrated together to form a union of states, India.



### Glossary

- (1) **Equator:** It is a circle that divides almost equally the Earth into the Northern and Southern hemisphere.
- (2) **Latitude:** The angular distance of a place north or south of the equator.
- (3) **Longitude:** The angular distance of a place east or west of GMT.
- (4) **Strait:** A narrow channel of water linking two large waterbodies.
- (5) **Subcontinent:** A large part of the continent separated from the rest of the continent by natural features such as sea, mountain.
- (6) **Tropic of Cancer:** The Tropic of Cancer is the area from the Equator, which circles the Earth, to the invisible line  $23\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  N of the Equator.
- (7) **Tropic of Capricorn:** It is the parallel of latitude that is approximately  $23\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  S degrees south of the equator and that is the southernmost latitude reached by the overhead sun.
- (8) **Indian Standard time (IST):** IST is the time zone observed throughout India, with a time offset of GMT + 05:30.
- (9) **Greenwich Mean Time (GMT):** GMT is the name for mean solar time of the longitude ( $0^{\circ}$ ) of the Royal Greenwich Observatory in England. The meridian at this longitude is called the Prime Meridian or Greenwich Meridian.
- (10) **Peninsula:** A peninsula is a piece of land that is bordered by water on three sides but connected to the mainland on one side.

## OBJECTIVE Type Questions

[ 1 mark ]

### Multiple Choice Questions

1. In which of the following hemispheres does India completely lie?



- (a) North-Eastern hemisphere
- (b) Western hemisphere
- (c) Eastern hemisphere
- (d) South-Western hemisphere

**Ans.** (a) North-Eastern hemisphere

**Explanation:** India lies entirely north of the Equator, in the Northern Hemisphere. Also, it lies entirely east of the Greenwich Line (Prime Meridian). Thus, it lies completely in the North-Eastern hemisphere.

### Related Theory

- The world is divided into two hemispheres—North and South. It is further divided into the Eastern and Western hemisphere. This helps in clearly marking the location of places.

2. Consider the statements given below and choose the correct answer.

**Statement (I):** India ranks number second in the world with respect to population.

**Statement (II):** India ranks seventh in the world with respect to area.

- (a) Statement (I) is correct and (II) is incorrect.
- (b) Statement (I) is incorrect and (II) is correct.
- (c) Both (I) and (II) are incorrect.
- (d) Both (I) and (II) are correct.

**Ans.** (d) Both (I) and (II) are correct.

**Explanation:** India stands at 7<sup>th</sup> position with respect to the area. Russia, Canada, China, USA, Brazil, Australia, India are the seven largest countries in the world.

### Related Theory

- China, India, United States, Indonesia, Pakistan are the top 5 most populous countries in the world.

3. India is surrounded by three waterbodies in the south. Which of the following waterbodies does not surround India?

- (a) Bay of Bengal
- (b) Indian Ocean
- (c) Arabian Sea
- (d) Java Sea

**Ans.** (d) Java Sea

**Explanation:** The Java Sea is located near to the Java island, south of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. It is closer to Malacca Strait. It does not surround the Indian mainland or its islands.

4. Aman, who lives in Gujarat, was talking to his friend Rohan in Arunachal Pradesh. While Aman was enjoying his evening tea, Rohan mentioned that it was already dark in his town. Surprised by this difference, Aman wondered how the sun could set at different times in the same country.

What is the total longitudinal extent of India that causes this time difference?

- (a) 8°4'N to 37°6'N
- (b) 68°7'N to 97°25'E
- (c) 68°7'E to 97°25'E
- (d) 8°4'E to 37°6'E

**Ans.** (c) 68°7'E to 97°25'E

**Explanation:** India stretches between 68°7'E and 97°25'E longitudes from west to east.

Due to the large longitudinal extent of around 29°, there could be significant differences in local time between places located at India's two extremes. As a result, the time difference between these two sites is approximately two hours.

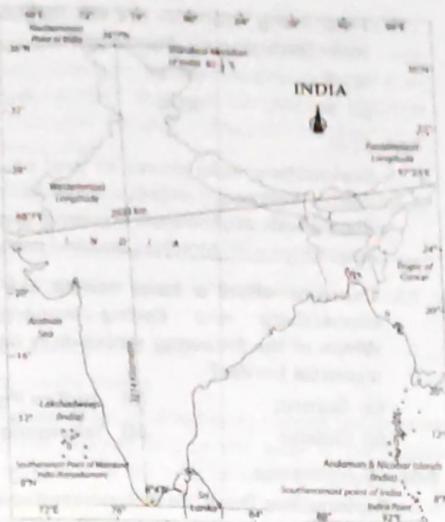
5. Which is considered as the longitude of the Standard Meridian of India?

- (a) 68°7'E
- (b) 97°25'S
- (c) 23°30'N
- (d) 82°30'E

[DIKSHA]

**Ans.** (d) 82°30'E

**Explanation:** The time calculated at the (82°30'E) India's Standard Meridian passing through Mirzapur (in Uttar Pradesh) is used as the country's standard time.



6. After the recent reorganisation, how many States and Union Territories does India have?
- 28 States and 7 Union Territories
  - 28 States and 8 Union Territories
  - 29 States and 7 Union Territories
  - 29 States and 8 Union Territories

**Ans.** (b) 28 States and 8 Union Territories

**Explanation:** In August 2019, the Parliament of India passed the Jammu and Kashmir act 2019, which contains provisions to reorganise the State of Jammu and Kashmir into two Union territories; Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh effective from 31 October 2019. This took the tally of total states in India up to 28 and UTs to 8.

- \* 7. In which year was the Suez Canal opened?
- 1896
  - 1986
  - 1903
  - 1869 [DIKSHA]

**Ans.** (d) 1869

**Explanation:** Its construction started in September 1859 and was completed in November 1869. The Suez Canal was opened to find a shorter route for military and commercial shipping was the major motive.

### Related Theory

→ It is an artificial waterway in Egypt which connects the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea and was constructed by Suez Canal Company.

### Caution

→ Even if the students do not remember the exact years mentioned in the statement of question, it helps if the students have a vague idea.

8. The former Prime Minister of India Atal Bihari Vajpayee said that, 'you can change your friends but not your neighbours'. In the light of this statement, identify, how many countries are India's neighbour in the north-east.

- 2
- 3
- 4
- 6

**Ans.** (b) 3

**Explanation:** India shares its border with seven countries in the north—Afghanistan and Pakistan to the north-west, China, Bhutan and Nepal to the north or north-east, Myanmar to the far East and Bangladesh to the East. Sri Lanka (from the South-East) and Maldives (from the South-West) are two countries who have maritime borders with India.

9. Riya is preparing for her geography quiz when she comes across a tricky question. She needs to identify which Indian state neither shares an international border with another country nor has a coastline. Given the options below, which state should Riya choose?

- Rajasthan
- Bihar
- Haryana
- Bengal

**Ans.** (c) Haryana

**Explanation:** The states of Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand and Union Territories like, Chandigarh and Delhi do not have an international border and do not lie on the coast.

- \* 10. Name the waterbody which separates India from Sri Lanka.

- Gulf of Mannar and Malacca Strait
- Palk Strait and Malacca Strait
- Gulf of Mannar and Palk Strait
- None of these

[DIKSHA]

**Ans.** (c) Gulf of Mannar and Palk Strait

**Explanation:** Palk Strait is a strait in Bay of Bengal that separates South India from northern Sri Lanka.

### Related Theory

→ Pamban Island (India), Adam's (Rama's) Bridge (a chain of shoals), the Gulf of Mannar, and Mannar Island border it on the south (Sri Lanka). Palk Bay is the name given to the southwestern part of the strait.

11. The Tropic of Cancer or Northern Tropic is the  $23^{\circ}26' N$ . Which of the following states touches the Tropic of Cancer?

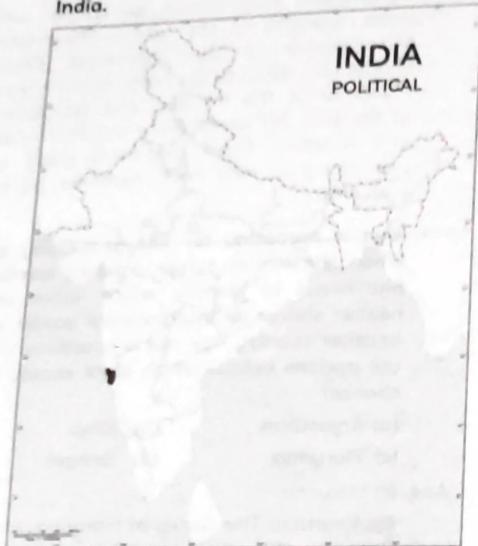
- Arunachal Pradesh
- Mizoram
- Assam
- Nagaland



**Ans.** (b) Mizoram

**Explanation:** The Tropic of Cancer passes through eight states in India: Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Tripura and Mizoram.

12. From the given map, identify the state which is also the smallest state in terms of area of India.



- (a) Goa  
(c) Tripura

- (b) Sikkim  
(d) Ladakh

**Ans.** (a) Goa

**Explanation:** Goa is the smallest state of India with 3,702 Sq. km, having a coastline of 131 km long, followed by Sikkim with an area of 7,096 sq. km.

13. Rahul and his friends are discussing Indian geography for their upcoming quiz competition. Their teacher gives them a challenge:

"Imagine you are planning a road trip across India, and you want to explore the largest state by area. This state is famous for its deserts, historical forts, and vibrant culture. Can you identify which state this is?" What is the name of the state?

- (a) Bihar  
(c) Bengal

- (b) Uttar Pradesh  
(d) Rajasthan

**Ans.** (d) Rajasthan

**Explanation:** Rajasthan, one of the westernmost, is the largest state in India—area wise. Uttar Pradesh has the largest population.

14. How many countries are the neighbours of India (including all directions)?

- (a) 5  
(e) 9

- (b) 10  
(d) 8

**Ans.** (c) 9

**Explanation:** India shares its land boundaries with Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, China, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Myanmar and water boundaries with Maldives and Sri Lanka.

- \* 15. Coastline offers a state benefit like better connectivity and fishing opportunities. Which of the following states does not have a coastal border?

- (a) Gujarat  
(c) Odisha

- (b) Andhra Pradesh  
(d) Telangana

**Ans.** (d) Telangana

**Explanation:** There are 9 coastal states in India namely Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and West Bengal.

16. India got independence in 1947 and subsequently the states were reorganised in 1957. Before 1947, Provinces were ruled by .....

- (a) Kings  
(c) Prime Minister

- (b) British officials  
(d) MP

**Ans.** (b) British officials

**Explanation:** Under British administration, India was divided into two parts princely states and provinces. Provinces were directly ruled by British officials.

#### Related Theory

→ The princely states were ruled by kings, but indirectly they were also ruled by British officials.

17. The Tropic of Cancer passes through 8 Indian States. It does not pass through:

- (a) Rajasthan  
(c) Odisha

- (b) Chhattisgarh  
(d) Tripura

**Ans.** (c) Odisha

**Explanation:** The Tropic of Cancer passes through 8 States in India: Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Mizoram, and Tripura.

- \* 18. Arrange the following countries in order of their border length with India.

- (I) Bangladesh  
(III) China

- (II) Pakistan  
(IV) Myanmar

Options:

- (a) (I), (III), (II), (IV)  
(c) (III), (II), (I), (IV)

- (b) (II), (III), (I), (IV)  
(d) (II), (I), (IV), (III)

**Ans.** (a) (I), (III), (II), (IV)

**Explanation:** India shares its land border with seven countries. The decreasing order of their border length, they are Bangladesh > China > Pakistan > Nepal > Myanmar > Bhutan > Afghanistan.

**19.** Which of the following union territories is located to the west of Indian mainland?

- (a) Puducherry
- (b) Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- (c) Lakshadweep
- (d) Daman and Diu

**Ans.** (c) Lakshadweep

**Explanation:** Lakshadweep Islands are located in the Arabian Sea to the west of the Indian mainland. To the east of India's eastern coast, Andaman and Nicobar Islands are located in the Bay of Bengal.

### Related Theory

→ Kavaratti is the capital of Lakshadweep Islands while Port Blair on South Andaman Island is the capital city of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

### Caution

→ Students must not have any confusion regarding the difference between States and Union Territories. The major difference is that States have their own elected government that are vested with the powers to frame the laws while a Union Territory is a small administrative unit that is ruled by the Union. The Union Territories are administered and controlled directly by the Central Government of India.

**★ 20.** Which of the following states of India is surrounded by Bangladesh on three sides?

- (a) Assam
- (b) Tripura
- (c) West Bengal
- (d) Bihar

[Delhi Govt. QB 2024]

**Ans.** (b) Tripura

### Caution

→ Student must observe the given political map of India very carefully to answer questions like this.

**21.** Which of the following statements about the Suez Canal is true?

- (I) It is a tourist attraction for Indians.
- (II) The tourism industry of India has flourished because of the Suez Canal.
- (III) The distance between India and Europe has been reduced by 7000 km.
- (IV) The Suez Canal opened in 1850.

Options:

- (a) (III) only
- (b) (II) and (IV)
- (c) (I), (II) and (IV)
- (d) (I), (II) and (III)

**Ans.** (a) (III) only

**Explanation:** The Suez Canal opened up in 1869. Since its opening, the distance between India from Europe has been reduced by 7,000 km.

The Suez Canal is not a tourist attraction. It has been useful for enhancing the trading relations between various continents and countries.

### Caution

→ Statements given in this category can also have minute errors which the students can easily miss if they are not paying attention to the question while reading it.

→ The best strategy is to read the question paper once in the beginning, during the reading time and then read it again and again to avoid such errors. Time management is the most important element for attempting a paper. Try to assign an appropriate amount of time to each section but also take into consideration the time you will require to read the question at least twice.

**22.** Identify the relation between the columns in the given table and fill in the blank:

Column A	Column B
Rajasthan	Pakistan
Uttar Pradesh	.....
(a) China	(b) Bhutan
(c) Nepal	(d) Myanmar

**Ans.** (c) Nepal

**Explanation:** Rajasthan and Pakistan share a border. Nepal shares borders with five Indian states- Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and Sikkim.

### Related Theory

→ Pakistan shares a land border with Rajasthan, Punjab and Kashmir.

**23.** The Standard Meridian of India passes through .....

- (a) Uttarakhand
- (b) Punjab
- (c) Uttar Pradesh
- (d) Bihar

**Ans.** (c) Uttar Pradesh

**Explanation:** IST passes through the city of Mirzapur in Uttar Pradesh.

**24.** Which of the following countries share boundaries with India in the East?

- (a) Bangladesh and Bhutan
- (b) Myanmar and Bangladesh
- (c) China and Nepal
- (d) Bhutan and Myanmar

**Ans.** (b) Myanmar and Bangladesh

**Explanation:** Myanmar and Bangladesh are in the East of India and sharing its border and many ancient cultural ties with each other.



- ★ 25. Choose the odd one out.**
- Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, West Bengal, Sikkim
  - Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram
  - Tripura, Assam, Meghalaya, West Bengal
  - Mizoram, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Tripura

**Ans. (b) Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram**

**Explanation:** Both national governments saw the geographic locations and surveyed to put up the fences declaring the boundaries to be shared by the states and Myanmar.

#### ⚠ Caution

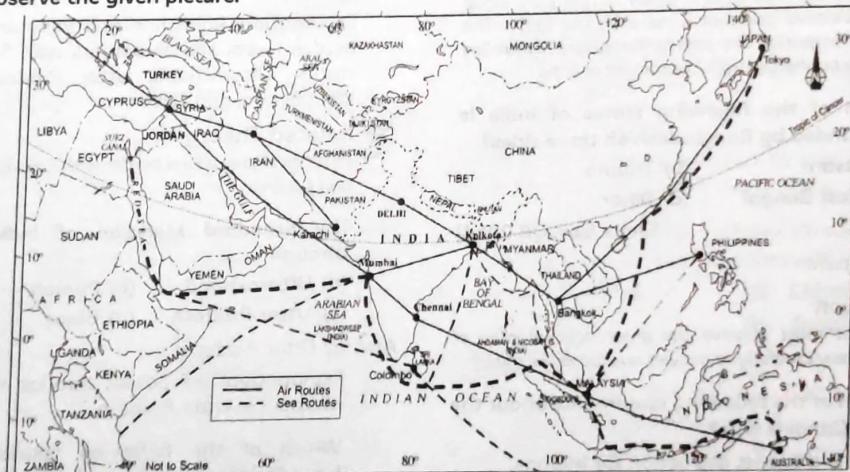
→ Students should try to read every alternative and establish a relationship among the options. If that is not achieved, students should then turn to data points and figures to choose the false alternative.

- 26. My friend hails from a country that does not share a land boundary with India. Identify the country.**

- Bhutan
- Tajikistan
- Bangladesh
- Nepal

[Delhi Gov. SQP 2022]

- 28. Observe the given picture.**



Which of the following regions are not connected by the trans-Indian oceanic routes?

- India and Egypt
- Sri Lanka and Singapore
- China and Japan
- India and Sri Lanka

**Ans. (c) China and Japan**

**Ans. (b) Tajikistan**

**Explanation:** Tajikistan does not share any land boundaries with India. Tajikistan is located in Central Asia surrounded by Afghanistan, China, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. It's known for rugged mountains, popular for hiking and climbing.

#### ⚠ Related Theory

→ Bhutan is located in the north of the Indian state Assam. Bangladesh shares borders with West Bengal, Tripura and Meghalaya. Nepal is surrounded by Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

- 27. Choose the correctly matched pair.**

- Uttarakhand - China
- Tripura - Myanmar
- Punjab - Afghanistan
- Manipur - Bangladesh

**Ans. (a) Uttarakhand - China**

**Explanation:** Uttarakhand shares borders with China. Similarly, Tripura and Manipur share borders with Bangladesh and Myanmar respectively. Punjab shares borders with Pakistan.

#### ⚠ Caution

→ To get comfortable with Map Based Questions students must make a habit of looking at the map Atlas every time there is a question related to it.

**Explanation:** China and Japan are connected to each other through trans-Pacific ocean routes as visible in the picture. China is not surrounded by the Indian Ocean.

#### ⚠ Caution

→ Each picture in the given chapter is important for the students to pay attention. They must remember the labellings and locations highlighted in the given picture.



- (c) Both (I) and (II) are incorrect.  
 (d) Both (I) and (II) are correct.

**Ans.** (a) Statement (I) is correct and (II) is incorrect.

**Explanation:** Since the opening of Suez Canal in 1869, the distance between India and Europe has shortened by 7000 kilometers.

### Related Theory

→ India is connected to Europe, North America, and South America via the Cape of Good Hope and the Suez Canal.

**37.** Which of the following statements about India's size and location is correct?

- (I) The total length of the coastline of the Indian mainland, including Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep, is 15200 km.  
 (II) The latitudinal and longitudinal extent of the mainland is about 30°.  
 (III) The Standard Meridian of India is 82°30'N.  
 (IV) Tropic of Cancer passes through 8 states in India.

**Options:**

- (a) Statements (I) and (II) are correct.  
 (b) Statements (I) and (III) are correct.  
 (c) Statements (II) and (III) are correct.  
 (d) Statements (II) and (IV) are correct.

**Ans.** (d) Statements (II) and (IV) are correct.

The total length of the coastline of the Indian mainland, including Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep, is 7516.6 km. The Standard Meridian of India passes through (82°30'E) Uttar Pradesh.

### Related Theory

→ The Union Territory of Lakshadweep was earlier known as Laccadive, Minicoy, and Amindivi Islands.

**38.** India lies in the centre of:

- (a) East and west Asia  
 (b) North and south Asia  
 (c) Asia  
 (d) World

**Ans.** (a) East and west Asia

**Explanation:** India lies in between the center of east and west Asia. India is the southward extension of the Asian continent. India shares its boundary to the northwest with Pakistan and Afghanistan; to the north with China, Nepal, and Bhutan; and to the east with Bangladesh and Myanmar.

### Related Theory

→ Pakistan share boundaries with following states of India: (1) Gujarat, (2) Rajasthan, (3) Punjab and (4) the union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

**39.** Match the items in Column A with that of Column B.

Column A	Column B
(A) Russia	(I) Africa
(B) Canada	(II) Australia
(C) Egypt	(III) Asia
(D) New Zealand	(IV) America

**Options:**

- (a) (A)-(III), (B)-(I), (C)-(IV), (D)-(II)  
 (b) (A)-(II), (B)-(III), (C)-(IV), (D)-(I)  
 (c) (A)-(II), (B)-(IV), (C)-(I), (D)-(III)  
 (d) (A)-(III), (B)-(IV), (C)-(I), (D)-(II)

**Ans.** (d) A-(III), B-(IV), C-(I), D-(II)

**Explanation:** The countries in Column A are located in continents in Column B.

Russia	-	Asia
Canada	-	America
Egypt	-	Africa
New Zealand	-	Australia

### Caution

→ It is important for students to pay attention to the world map given in the chapter as well as the Atlas.

**40.** Match the items in Column A with that of Column B.

Column A	Column B
(A) Andaman Islands	(I) Pacific Ocean
(B) Lakshadweep Islands	(II) Indian Ocean
(C) Philippines	(III) Bay of Bengal
(D) Sri Lanka	(IV) Arabian Sea

**Options:**

- (a) (A)-(III), (B)-(IV), (C)-(I), (D)-(II)  
 (b) (A)-(II), (B)-(III), (C)-(IV), (D)-(I)  
 (c) (A)-(II), (B)-(IV), (C)-(I), (D)-(III)  
 (d) (A)-(III), (B)-(I), (C)-(IV), (D)-(II)

**Ans.** (a) (A)-(III), (B)-(IV), C-(I), D-(II)

**Explanation:** The islands mentioned in Column A are located in major water bodies mentioned in Column B. Andaman and Nicobar Islands are located in the Bay of Bengal. Sri Lanka is located in the Indian Ocean. The Philippines is located close to the South-China Sea and Pacific Ocean.

## **Assertion-Reason (A-R)**

In the following questions, two statements in the form of an Assertion (A) and a Reason (R) have been put forward. Read both statements carefully and choose the most appropriate option:

- Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (A) is correct but (R) is wrong.
- (A) is wrong but (R) is correct.

**41. Assertion (A):** There is a difference of two hours in time between Arunachal Pradesh and Gujarat.

**Reason (R):** The Prime Meridian of India is 82°30' E.

**Ans. (b)** Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

**Explanation:** There is a difference of two hours in time between Arunachal Pradesh and Gujarat because of difference in longitudes between their locations.

The mid or neutral point between them is Mirzapur or 82°30' E. It is considered to be the Standard Meridian for convenience and time along this line is taken as the standard time for the country.



### **Related Theory**

→ The Prime Meridian of the world is 0° E/W in Greenwich England.

**42. Assertion (A):** The Indian continent is situated in the middle of Asia, between East and West.

**Reason (R):** The Trans Indian Ocean routes, which connect western European countries with eastern Asian ones, offer India with a vital center location.

**Ans. (b)** Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

**Explanation:** The Indian landmass lies at the crossroads of East and West Asia. India is the southernmost outpost of the Asian continent. The trans-Indian Ocean routes, which connect western European countries with eastern Asian ones, provide a vital central location for India.



### **Related Theory**

→ In the nineteenth century, India was colonised by the British. British goods were imported tax-free or with a low tariff, whilst items exported from India were heavily taxed. As a result, India's industries began to decline in the nineteenth century.

**43. Assertion (A):** India's contacts with the world have continued through ages and have contributed in the exchange of ideas and commodities since ancient times.

**Reason (R):** The various passes across the mountains in the north have provided passages to the ancient travellers.

**Ans. (a)** Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

**Explanation:** Since ancient times, land routes have aided India in the flow of ideas and commodities.

### **Related Theory**

→ Travelers have used the several mountain routes over the Himalayan range and other mountains in the north since ancient times.

**44. Assertion (A):** The Indian Ocean got its name from India.

**Reason (R):** India has the longest coastline in the Indian Ocean among all countries.

**Ans. (a)** Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

**Explanation:** The Indian landmass lies at the crossroads of East and West Asia. India is the only country with such a long coastline on the Indian Ocean. Naming an ocean after the country that dominates it, both geographically and economically is justified.

**45. Assertion (A):** Andaman and Nicobar Islands lie to the south east and Lakshadweep islands lie to south west of mainland India.

**Reason (R):** Andaman and Nicobar Islands work as a barrier for mainland India against tsunamis.

**Ans. (c)** (A) is correct but (R) is wrong.

**Explanation:** India has two valuable archipelagos in the Arabian Sea and in the Bay of Bengal. Andaman and Nicobar Islands lie in the Bay of Bengal to the south east of mainland India and Lakshadweep Islands lie in the Arabian Sea to the south west of mainland India. Andaman and Nicobar Islands are too far away from mainland India to work as a barrier in the case of a tsunami hitting the mainland, India.



46. Assertion (A): Indian Standard Time is 5 hours and 30 minutes ahead of Greenwich Meridian Time.

Reason (R): Indian Standard Meridian lies to the  $82^{\circ}30'E$  of Greenwich Meridian.

Ans. (a) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

**Explanation:** The difference of  $1^{\circ}$  Longitude translates into a 4 minutes time difference. So, since the difference of longitude between Greenwich meridian and Indian Standard Meridian is 82.5 degrees; therefore

$$1^{\circ} \text{ Longitude} = 4 \text{ minutes time difference}$$

$$82.5^{\circ} \text{ Longitude} = 82.5 \times 4 = 330 \text{ minutes}$$

= 330 minutes time difference

= 5 hours and 30 minutes time difference.

47. ☀ Assertion (A): Pakistan, Bangladesh and India share almost common cultures and traditional influences.

Reason (R): They are located in the same region.

Ans. (a) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

**Explanation:** India has deep cultural ties with its neighbouring countries. Its influence can be deeply experienced upon their beliefs, values, architecture, cuisines, lifestyles etc. This is because these countries lie in the same region and share similar lineage and descent.

## CASE BASED Questions (CBQs)

[ 4 marks ]

Read the following passages and answer the questions that follow.

48. Sun rises earliest in Arunachal Pradesh in India. Then it rises for the rest of the country moving westward. Gujarat sees the sun last in the morning in the country. Similarly, the sun sets earliest in Arunachal Pradesh and then moves westwards till Gujarat. Hence, time along the Standard Meridian of India ( $82^{\circ}30'E$ ) passing through Mirzapur (in Uttar Pradesh) is taken as the standard time for the whole country. The latitudinal extent influences the duration of day and night, as one moves from south to north.

(A) Ram has grown up in Arunachal Pradesh and has recently moved to Gujarat for higher studies. What is the difference of time between when he will now see the sun rising in the morning and when someone in Arunachal Pradesh sees the rising sun?

- (a) 90 minutes      (b) 120 minutes  
(c) 110 minutes      (d) 60 minutes

(B) Through which of the following cities does the Standard Meridian pass?

- (a) Mirzapur      (b) Agra  
(c) Lucknow      (d) Allahabad

(C) Which of the following longitudes is chosen as the standard meridian in India?

- (a)  $82^{\circ}30'E$       (b)  $82^{\circ}30'W$   
(c)  $82^{\circ}30'N$       (d)  $82^{\circ}30'S$

(D) How does the latitudinal extent influence the duration of day and night?

- (a) Days become short as we go towards the equator.  
(b) Nights become short as we go towards the equator.  
(c) Day and nights are not influenced by the latitudinal extent.  
(d) The latitude of a location causes a difference in the intensity of the days and nights.

Ans. (A) (b) 120 minutes

**Explanation:** The longitudinal difference between Gujarat and Arunachal Pradesh is roughly 30 degrees.

Also  $1^{\circ}$  Longitudinal difference = 4 minutes difference

$30^{\circ}$  Longitudinal difference =  $4 \times 30$  minutes time difference = 120 minutes or 2 hours time difference.

(B) (a) Mirzapur

**Explanation:** There are a few states through which  $82.5^{\circ}$  longitude passes. They are:

Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, and Andhra Pradesh.

(C) (a)  $82^{\circ}30'E$

**Explanation:** The standard meridian of India lies  $82^{\circ}30'E$  of the Greenwich meridian.

(D) (b) Nights become short as we go towards the equator.

☉ Extra content given according to the latest syllabus uploaded by CBSE.

**Explanation:** Latitudinal extent of location affects the duration of day and night. Days become shorter as we move away from the 0° N/S the equator (closer to the poles) and nights become longer due to less incidence of sun rays.



### Related Theory

→ Longitudinal extent of a location affects the time.

49. India traditionally had a good relationship with Sri Lanka. Though there was a lot of commotion among the Indians and Tamil natives, after signing the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord in 1987, things have changed and now both maintain a harmonious relationship. Coming to Bangladesh, both countries have a common heritage and they have always maintained a good relationship without much hassle. Pakistan has been hostile to India and India has always tried to improve the relationship with it for a long time. The Kashmir issue has been raised by Pakistan in many forums and they even train terrorists to cause chaos in Kashmir. Though India has assured that it would never initiate an attack, the activities of Pakistan do not assure the same and hence the relationship between the two countries has never been satisfactory. Compared to other neighbours Nepal, Bhutan and Maldives have always been on the satisfactory side throughout.

★ (A) Bhutan is a very friendly neighbour of India so much so that there is a porous border between the two allowing for easy movement of goods and people. Which of these Indian states does not share a border with Bhutan?

- (a) Assam
- (b) Sikkim
- (c) Meghalaya
- (d) Arunachal Pradesh

(B) Which of the following countries shares the smallest border with India?

- (a) Pakistan      (b) China
- (c) Bhutan      (d) Afghanistan

(C) Consider the following statements. Which of the following is/are true?

- (I) All North Eastern states share boundaries with foreign countries.
- (II) Arunachal Pradesh shares boundaries with 3 foreign countries.

(III) The western states of India share a boundary with Afghanistan.

Options:

- (a) Only (I)
- (b) Only (II)
- (c) (II) and (III)
- (d) (I) and (II)

(D) Which of the following countries share a maritime border with India?

- (a) China
- (b) Afghanistan
- (c) Bhutan
- (d) Maldives

**Ans.** (A)(c) Meghalaya

**Explanation:** Bhutan does not share a border with Meghalaya. Bhutan shares its borders with the Indian states of Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, and Assam.

(B) (d) Afghanistan

**Explanation:** India's border with Afghanistan is the shortest. This border is 106 km long. It is called the Durand Line.

(C) (d) (I) and (II)

**Explanation:** All the North-East states lie along the international borders surrounded by five neighbouring countries viz, China, Bhutan, Nepal, Myanmar, and Bangladesh. Arunachal Pradesh shares borders with Bhutan, China and Myanmar.

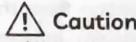


### Related Theory

→ The union territory of Jammu and Kashmir shares a border with Afghanistan.

(D) (d) Maldives

**Explanation:** India shares its sea border with seven countries—Pakistan, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Thailand, Myanmar and Bangladesh.



### Caution

→ It is important for the students to remember which countries share a land border with India and which countries share a maritime (sea) border.

50. India is strategically located in the south of Asia. It is divided into 28 States and 8 Union Territories. Area wise Rajasthan is the largest state, Goa is the smallest state in India. India shares its boundaries with Afghanistan and Pakistan in the northwest, China, Nepal and Bhutan in the north and Myanmar and Bangladesh in the east. In the south, Sri Lanka and Maldives are its neighbours. While Sri Lanka is separated from India by a narrow channel of sea formed by the Palk Strait and the Gulf of Mannar, the islands of Maldives are located to the south of the Lakshadweep Islands. India has had strong geographical and historical links with her neighbours.



(A) Name the Indian group of islands which are located the closest to the country of Maldives.

(B) Name the smallest state in India.

(C) Why is the position of India strategically beneficial?

**Ans.** (A) The Lakshadweep Islands are located extremely close to the country of Maldives.

### Related Theory

→ The Lakshadweep Islands are located in the Arabian Sea to the west of the Indian mainland.

(B) Goa is the smallest state in India according to the area.

(C) The position of India is strategically beneficial because:

(1) It is the Southward extension of Asia, separated from the Asian mainland by the Himalayas which form a weather/security barrier for India.

(2) India is also surrounded by the Indian Ocean which gives it a huge coastline. This coastline opens up new avenues of Maritime trade and commerce. It can also prove to be beneficial at the time of emergencies or wars.

**51.** India shares land boundaries with Pakistan and Afghanistan in the north western side, China, Nepal and Bhutan in the north, Bangladesh and Myanmar in eastern side. Various states of India share borders with India's neighbours. These states need special attention from the Union Government due to security reasons. However, a lot of states lie in the hinterland and do not share borders with any foreign country.

(A) Name a country located on the Eastern border of India.

(B) Name two Indian states which share their borders with Pakistan.

(C) Name the Indian states that share the border with Bangladesh.

**Ans.** (A) Bangladesh/Myanmar

**Explanation:** India shares its border on the eastern side with Myanmar and Bangladesh.

(B) (1) Rajasthan shares 1070 km long border with Pakistan.

(2) Punjab was divided into two parts due to the partition and shares border with Pakistan.

(C) Assam, Mizoram, Tripura, Meghalaya and West Bengal share border with Bangladesh.

52. The ideas of the Upanishads and the Ramayana, the stories of Panchatantra, the Indian numerals and the decimal system thus could reach many parts of the world. The spices, muslin and other merchandise were taken from India to different countries. On the other hand, the influence of Greek sculpture, and the architectural styles of domes and minarets from West Asia can be seen in different parts of our country.

(A) Name some merchandise which are taken from India to other countries in ancient time.

(B) The ideas of ..... and ..... reached many parts of the world.

(C) What are the Indian contribution in mathematics to the world?

(D) What is the impact of West Asia on Indian Architecture?

[Delhi Gov. QB 2022]

**Ans.** (A) Some merchandise taken from India to other countries are:

(1) Silk

(2) Muslin

(3) Spices like pepper

(4) Dyes like Indigo

(B) Ramayana; Upanishads

### Caution

→ It is important for the students to pay attention to the sentences and phrases mentioned in the chapter. Understanding the concepts is important rather than rote learning.

(C) Indian contribution in Mathematics to the world are the decimal system (because zero was invented in India) and the numeral system.

(D) The impact of West Asia on Indian Architecture is as follows:

(1) Indian Architecture was heavily influenced by the Greek and Roman school of art.

(2) Architectural styles like domes and minarets have been adapted from West Asia to the Indian monuments and style of architecture.

(Any one point)

## SHORT ANSWER Type-I Questions (SA-I)

[ 2 marks ]

53. The Suez Canal is an artificial sea-level waterway in Egypt, connecting the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea through the Isthmus of Suez and dividing Africa and Asia. How has the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869 been advantageous for India?

**Ans.** India's distance from Europe has been reduced by 7,000 km. Increased its trade relations with European countries and give a boost to earning of foreign exchange.



### Related Theory

→ After Egypt closed the Suez Canal at the beginning of the Six-Day War on 5 June 1967, the Canal remained closed for precisely eight years, reopening in June 1975.

54. 'India was ruled by the Britishers for long before it got independence after prolonged struggle. British India was divided into two types of states.' Substantiate the statement with examples.

**Ans.** Before the independence of India, it is divided into Provinces and Princely states. Provinces were those states which were ruled by Britishers directly. Princely states were ruled by Kings and Princes directly, but indirectly by Britishers in the end.

55. 'The Tropic of Cancer divides country into almost two equal halves.' Justify the statement.

**Ans.** (1) India is a vast country which lies entirely in the Northern hemisphere, extending between the latitudes 8°4'N and 37°6'N and the longitudes 68°7'E and 97°25'E.  
(2) The parallel of latitude which roughly divides India into two equal halves is the Tropic of Cancer (23° 30' N).

56. ◉ 'Latitudes affect the temperature of a location.' Provide evidence to support this statement.

**Ans.** Lower latitudes experience warmer summers because they receive more sunlight for a larger period of time in a year because they are close to equator. While, higher altitudes experience colder temperature as they are far from equator like Kashmir.

◉ Extra content given according to the latest syllabus uploaded by CBSE.

57. Ravi is planning a trip from India to Canada. He notices that the climate changes significantly as he moves northward. His geography teacher explains that imaginary horizontal lines on the globe help in understanding climate variations and time zones.

Based on this situation, what are the two important uses of latitudes?

**Ans.** Latitudes are useful because:

- (1) They help in ascertaining the location of a place.
- (2) They affect the duration of day and night. The duration of day and night change because of the latitudinal extent of a country/location.

58. What was the state of Indian provinces before the Partition of India in 1947?

**Ans.** The state of Indian provinces before the Partition was:

- (1) India was divided into provinces and princely states before the Partition. There were 582 provinces.
- (2) Provinces were ruled directly by British officials (appointed by the Viceroy). Princely states were ruled by local, hereditary rulers, who acknowledged the sovereignty of the British crown in return for local autonomy.

59. Mention the names of the countries larger than India. [Delhi Gov. QB 2022]

**Ans.** The names of 6 countries larger than India are:

- (1) Russia
  - (2) Canada
  - (3) USA
  - (4) China
  - (5) Brazil
  - (6) Australia
- (Any two points)

60. How long is the coastline of India? Highlight two benefits of such a coastline?

**Ans.** The total length of the coastline of the mainland, including Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep, is 7,516.6 km. The benefits of a long coastline are:



- (1) It presents India with various potential avenues for maritime trade.
- (2) Ports can be established on the coast making international trade and communication possible.

**61. Highlight the contribution of India to the development of the world.**

**Ans.** India has achieved multi-faceted socioeconomic progress during the last five decades. It has displayed progress in the field of agriculture, industry, technology and overall economic development.

Indian struggle for Independence inspired various countries to fight colonialism and foreign control.

**62. 'Ravi, a young geography student, was traveling with his family across southern India. As he looked out of the train window, he noticed vast plateaus, fertile black soil, and rivers flowing through the region known**

as Deccan Plateau. Ravi wondered: How does the Deccan Peninsula is useful to India? Answer this question of Ravi.

**Ans.** The Deccan Peninsula and its location is helpful because:

- (1) It is the storehouse of minerals.
- (2) Its location helps India in establishing close contact with West Asia, Africa and Europe from the western coast and with Southeast and East Asia from the eastern coast.

**63. (◎) How do longitudes affect the time of a location?**

**Ans.** To determine the time of a location, one must know its longitudinal extent.

- (1) Farther a longitude from the  $0^{\circ}$  longitude (also the Prime Meridian), larger is the time difference between the two locations.
- (2) Each longitude has a difference of 4 minutes.

## SHORT ANSWER Type-II Questions (SA-II)

[ 3 marks ]

**64. Why is there a difference of two hours in sunrise in Arunachal Pradesh and Gujarat?**

[Delhi Gov. QB 2024]

**Ans.** There is a time lag between Gujarat and Arunachal Pradesh because:

- (1) Gujarat is located in the far western part of India, while Arunachal Pradesh is located in the far east.
- (2) Each longitude adds four minutes to the time. The difference between the longitudes of Gujarat and Arunachal Pradesh is thirty degrees.
- (3) As a result, the time difference between Gujarat and Arunachal Pradesh is two hours or 120 minutes.

**65. Aarav, a student preparing for his geography quiz, came across the term "subcontinent" while studying. Aarav wondered what the term means and which countries are part of the Indian subcontinent. Help him to answer his question.**

**Ans.** A subcontinent is a very large and distinguishable part of a continent.

- (1) The Indian subcontinent is a vast and geographically diverse entity.
- (2) It has been endowed with various mountains, rivers, seas and countries.
- (3) It is made up of India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and the Maldives.

**66. 'The Indian Ocean is the only ocean named after a country.' Justify the statement.**

[DIKSHA]

**Ans.** The Indian Ocean is the only ocean named after a country because:

- (1) No other country has as long a coastline on any ocean as India has on the Indian Ocean.
- (2) India's location is almost at the centre/the heart of the Indian Ocean.
- (3) All the sea traffic experienced by the Indian Ocean (from East Asia to Africa or Europe and vice versa) is because of India's trading relationships with these countries. India is the centre of this overseas trading relationship.

**67. Why does India need the standard time?**

[Delhi Gov. QB 2024]

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**Ans.** India needs a standard time because:

- (1) If there was no standard time, the systems and institutions of the entire country would face a lot of difficulties in operating.
- (2) Every function would have to be performed depending upon the location of the institution. Trains will have no standard time of running. All other facilities will have no uniformity in operating.
- (3) A standard time makes it easier for the central government to operate and administer rules and laws on the entire country.

The standard time for India is the time along the 82°30' E longitude.

68. **◎** Highlight the cultural relationships maintained by India with its neighbouring countries using examples.

**Ans.** India has been able to maintain deep cultural ties with its neighbouring countries. Some examples are:

- (1) Both Nepal and Bhutan are deeply influenced by Buddhism which emerged in India and spread across the continent.
- (2) India and Sri Lanka share close religious ties. Various localised editions of the Ramayana have been popularised in different South-Asian nations.
- (3) India has been a source of inspiration for art and architecture in Nepal and Bhutan.

## LONG ANSWER Type Questions (LA)

[ 5 marks ]

69. Since time immemorial, India has benefited from its location. Even today, Indians take pride in it. Do you agree? Support your stand using five points.

**Ans.** The central location of India is considered of great significance because of the following reasons:

- (1) The Trans- Indian Ocean routes which connect India with the countries of Europe in the west and the countries of East Asia are beneficial for us economically.
- (2) The Deccan peninsula protrudes into the Indian Ocean and establishes its close contact with West Asia, Africa and Europe from the western coast and with southwest and East Asia from the eastern coast. This helps put India in the centre of world market.
- (3) No other country has a longer coastline on the Indian Ocean than India. This puts India in the middle of world sea routes. India's contacts with the world have continued through the ages because of its land and maritime connectivity.
- (4) The various passes across the mountains in the north have provided passages to the ancient travellers. These routes have contributed to the exchange of ideas and commodities since ancient times.
- (5) Various concepts which have developed and become popular across the world have their genesis in India but could only reach the world only through India's location.

70. Illustrate the size and location of India.

[DIKSHA]

**Ans.** The size and location of India can be described using the following points.

- (1) India has an area of 3.28 million square km. India's total area accounts for about 2.4 percent of the total geographical area of the world.
- (2) India has a land boundary of about 15,200 km and the total length of the coastline of the mainland including Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep is 7,516.6 km.
- (3) India is the seventh largest country in the world owing to its extent.
- (4) India lies entirely in the Northern Hemisphere. The mainland extends between latitudes 8°4'N and 37°6'N and longitudes 68°7'E and 97°25'E.
- (5) The Tropic of Cancer (23°30'N) divides the country into almost two equal parts. To the southeast and southwest of the mainland lie the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Lakshadweep islands in the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea respectively.

71. Riya and her family recently visited a remote village in the Himalayas. She noticed that most people there were engaged in terrace

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farming, wore woolen clothes, and lived in wooden houses. In contrast, when she traveled to Rajasthan, she saw that people wore light cotton clothes, lived in mud houses, and relied on camel transportation. Based on these observations, explain how the physical environment influences the livelihood, culture, and biodiversity of a region. Support your answer with examples.

**Ans.** The physical environment plays a crucial role in shaping human life, including livelihood, culture, and biodiversity.

- (1) In the Himalayan region, the cold climate and mountainous terrain make agriculture difficult, so people practice terrace farming to prevent soil erosion.
- (2) In Rajasthan, due to scarce rainfall and desert conditions, people depend on animal husbandry (camels, sheep) and trade for survival.

(3) In colder regions like the Himalayas, people wear thick woolen clothes to protect themselves from extreme cold, whereas in Rajasthan, people wear light-colored cotton clothes to stay cool in the hot desert climate.

(4) Houses in the Himalayas are made of wood to keep warm, while mud houses in Rajasthan help in maintaining cool temperatures.

(5) The Himalayas have dense coniferous forests, wildlife like snow leopards and yaks, whereas Rajasthan has thorny bushes, camels, and desert-adapted animals like the Great Indian Bustard.

Thus, the physical environment directly influences how people live, work, dress, and even the biodiversity of the region.

**Multiple Choice Questions**

1. Which of the following statements are true about India?
- The Tropic of Cancer ( $23^{\circ}30'N$ ) divides the country into almost two equal parts.
  - It lies in the southern hemisphere.
  - India extends between latitudes  $8^{\circ}4'N$  and  $37^{\circ}6'N$  and longitudes  $68^{\circ}7'E$  and  $97^{\circ}25'E$ .
  - The latitudinal and longitudinal extent of the mainland is about  $30^{\circ}$ .

Options:

- (I), (III) and (IV)
- (II), (III) and (IV)
- (I), (III) and (IV)
- (I) and (II)

(Evaluate) 1

2. Choose the incorrectly matched pair.

- $8^{\circ}4'N$  – Southernmost boundary of India
- Standard meridian – Passes through Mirzapur
- Lakshadweep Islands – Bay of Bengal
- Gulf of Mannar – Sri Lanka

(Understand) 1

3. Arjun, an exporter from Mumbai, received an urgent order from a client in Europe. He needed to ship goods quickly and efficiently. While discussing shipping routes with his logistics team, they explained how a certain waterway had significantly reduced travel time between India and Europe, making trade faster and more economical. Which waterbody is being talked about in the situation?

- Indian Ocean
- Suez Canal
- Atlantic Ocean
- Red sea

(Understand) 1

4. Arrange from West to East.

- Andaman Islands
- Palk Strait
- Lakshadweep Islands
- Kanyakumari

Options:

- (III), (I), (IV), (II)
- (II), (III), (I), (IV)
- (III), (IV), (II), (I)
- (IV), (I), (II), (III)

(Analyse) 1

**Assertion-Reason (A-R)**

In the following questions, two statements in the form of an Assertion (A) and a Reason (R) have been put forward. Read both statements carefully and choose the most appropriate option:

- Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (A) is correct but (R) is wrong.
- (A) is wrong but (R) is correct.

5. Assertion (A): India is located in the eastern hemisphere.

Reason (R): India is a country located in the continent of Europe.

(Analyse) 1

6. Assertion (A): India is a large country.

Reason (R): Its east-west extent appears to be smaller than the north-south extent.

(Analyse) 1

**Case Based Question**

7. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

India has a land boundary of about 15,200 km and the total length of the coastline of the mainland, including Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep, is 7,516.6 km. India is bounded by the young fold mountains in the northwest, north and northeast. South of about  $22^{\circ}$  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.

(A) Which position is accorded to India based on its size? (Remember) 1

(B) Which young folded mountains are being mentioned in the given source? (Remember) 1

(C) Why is the tapering of the Indian peninsula into the Indian Ocean helpful for India? (Understand) 2

**Short Answer Type-I Questions**

8. Mention two examples supporting the assertion that India has a diverse geography.

(Understand) 2



9. Analyse the features of the relationship shared by India with her neighbours.  
(Analyse) 2

## **Short Answer Type-II Questions**

- Short Answer Type-II**

10. How have the Indian land and maritime routes benefitted India? Mention three points.  
(Understand) 3

11. Aman, a young entrepreneur from India, was attending a global trade conference in Dubai. He noticed that many international companies were eager to invest in India due to its large market and skilled workforce.

to its strategic location. Based on Aman's observations, how has India's location influenced its global position in terms of trade, culture, and diplomacy?

(Understand) 3



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