



India

Climate, Seasons and States

Water bodies in India

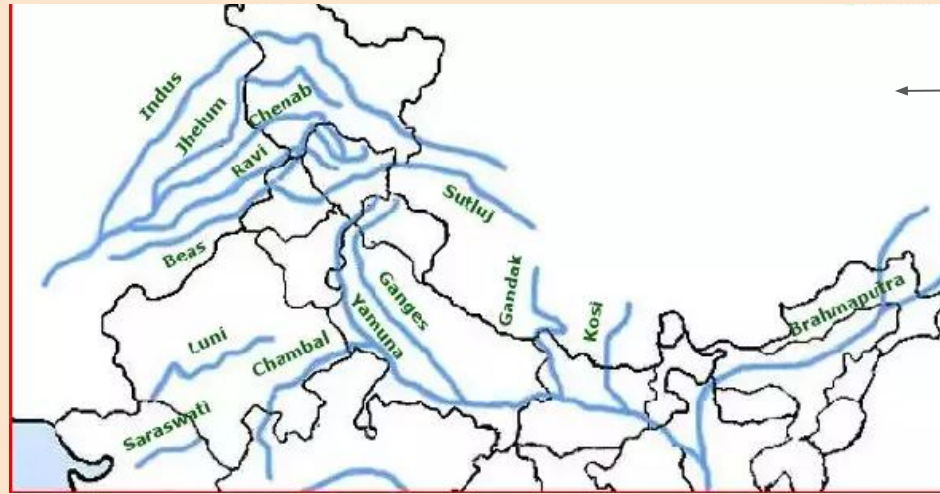
Rivers

Rivers are bodies of water that generally emerge from mountains and flow through plains. After reaching a plain, the rivers branch out into distributaries and finally join the sea or the ocean.

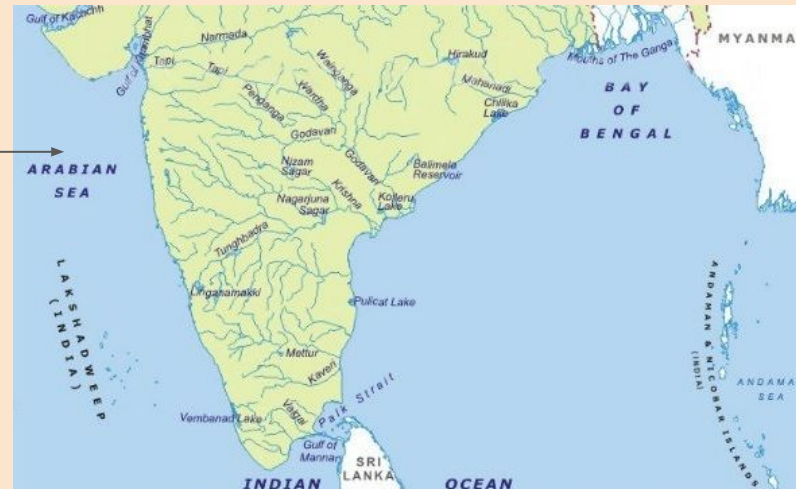
Rivers also provide water for drinking and agriculture. Rivers play an important part in the water cycle. Rivers are considered holy and worshipped by people living around them.



Most of the rivers of peninsular India originate in the Western Ghats and flow towards the Bay of Bengal.



The major Himalayan rivers are the Indus, the Ganga and the Brahmaputra. These rivers are very long, and are joined by many large and important tributaries.



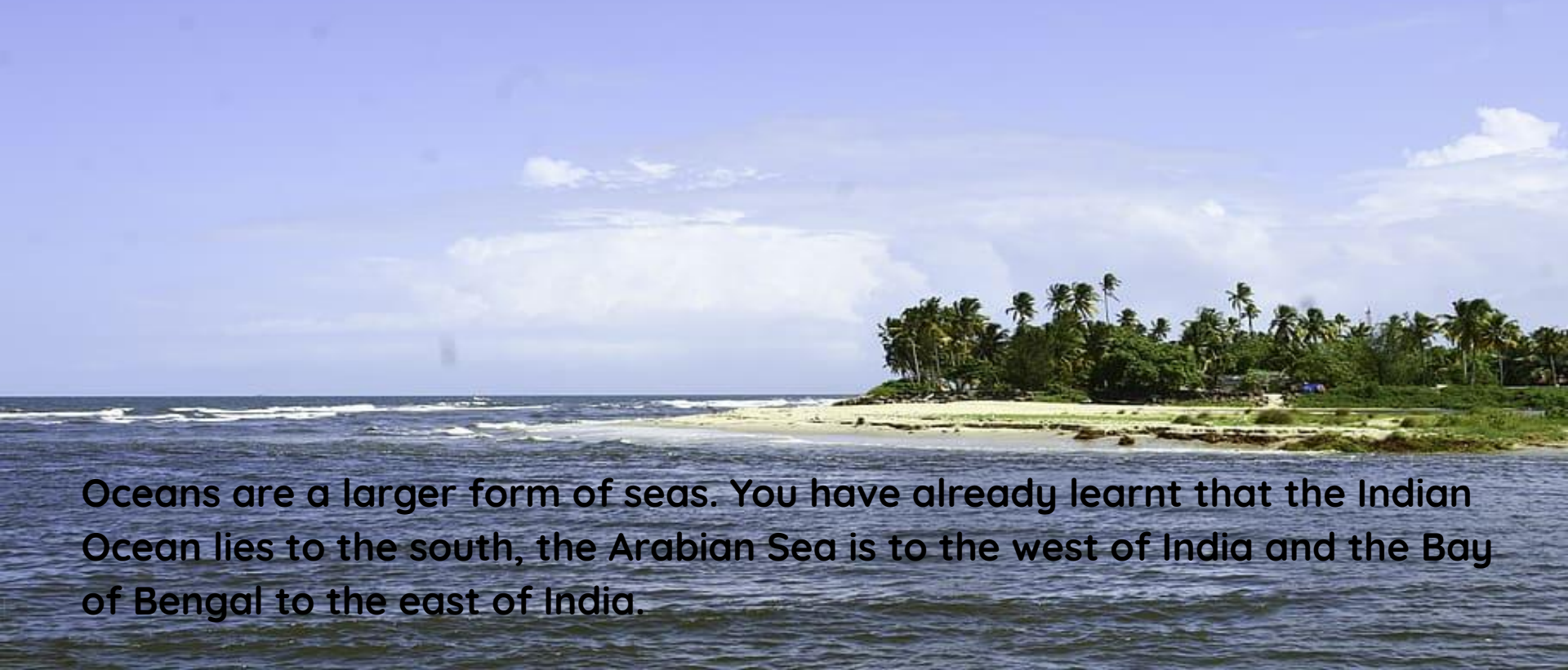
Lakes

Lakes are bodies of water surrounded by landmasses. A small lake is called a pond. Lakes that are made by man are called man-made lakes.

India has many natural lakes. Sambhar Lake is the largest lake in India. The Wular Lake in Jammu & Kashmir is the largest natural freshwater lake. Chilika Lake in Odisha is the largest saltwater lake.

Seas & Oceans

Seas are large bodies of saltwater that do not have a natural outlet.



Oceans are a larger form of seas. You have already learnt that the Indian Ocean lies to the south, the Arabian Sea is to the west of India and the Bay of Bengal to the east of India.

A photograph of a river scene. In the foreground, a yellow and blue boat is partially submerged, with a person sitting inside. Several people are swimming in the water, and one person is standing in the water holding a long pole. In the background, there is a grassy bank and a small island in the water.

Do you know ?

71 % of the world's surface is covered with water, but 97% of that is salt water.

Out of 3% that is available as freshwater, three quarter(2.25%) is trapped as ice and only 0.25% left for us to consume. We get this water from rivers, lakes and other resources. (You see how precious water is !)

The Climate of India

You know that India is a big country and has a wide range of landforms like Mountains, Plateaus, Deserts, Ghats and Plains. These affect the climate in various parts of the country.



There are some places where the temperature is extremely hot while at others it is very cold. Some places get heavy rainfall and others do not get any rainfall for years.

What is climate?

Weather is the condition of the air surrounding us which can change from day to day and place to place, while Climate is the normal weather condition of a place.

Seasons in India



There are three main seasons in India : Summer, Monsoon and Winter.

Winter :In India, we say it is winter from the months of november to february.. Cold wind blows in from the Himalayas to the south of India. It is cool and dry everywhere except in the far south and west of the country, where there is heat and humidity throughout the year.

In summer months, from march to june, the wind changes direction, and as a result most of India is hot and dry during this period.

July to September is monsoon time, also known as the rainy season. This is the time of mild to heavy showers. If the monsoon rains fail to arrive, as it sometimes happens, then there is drought and famine.

In autumn, October and mid November, the winds blow towards the south from the Himalayas again. It is cool and dry and the temperature starts to fall.

States in India

There are many villages, towns and cities in India.

Is your
village/town
/city big or
small?

Do you live
in a village,
town or a
city?

Do you know
which part of
India your
home is in?

Is your home
in the North,
south, west
or east of
India?

Political Division

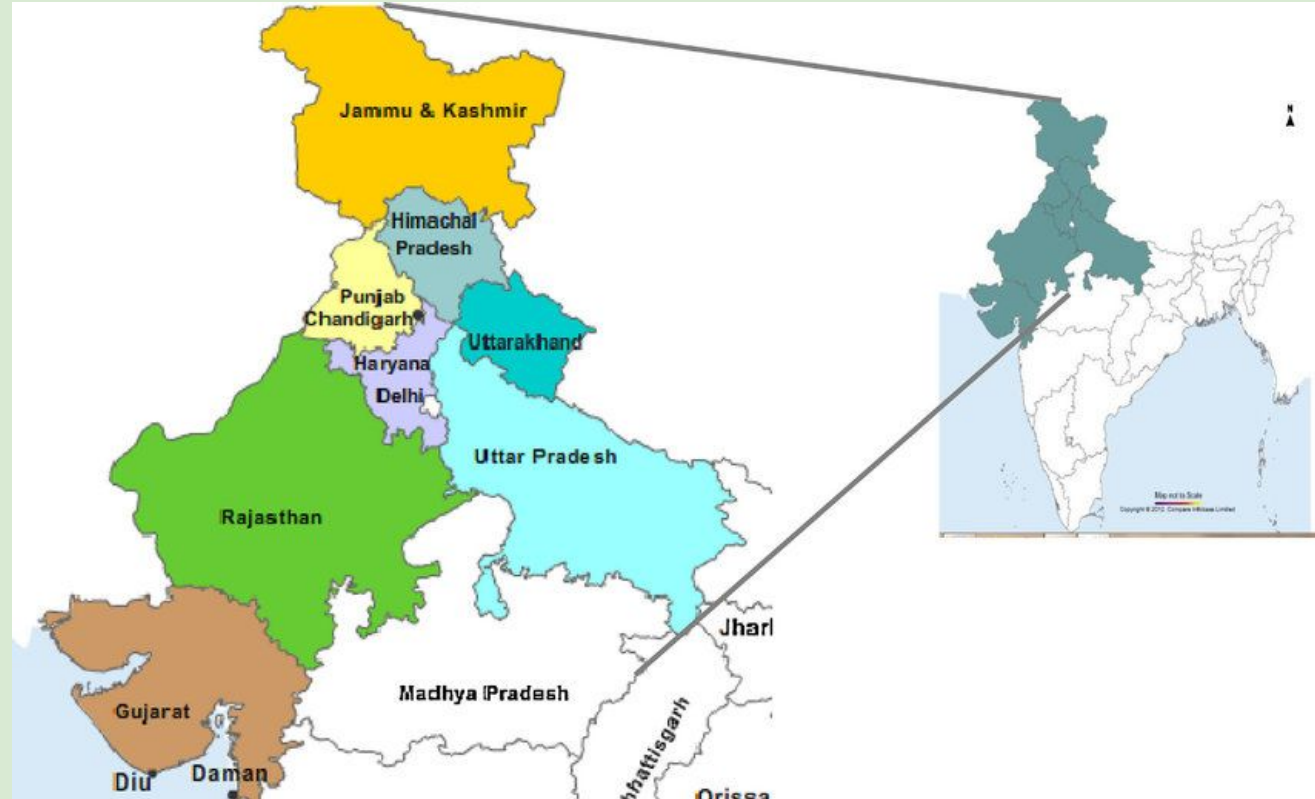
The entire nation and its population is looked after by the **Central Government** or the **Union Government**. But, it is not easy for the Central Government to look after the whole nation all by itself. So, India has been divided into small parts called **States** and **Union Territories**.



Indian States

Look at the various states of India and their capital cities. Find out from a map if these states belong to the eastern, western, central, northern or southern part of India.

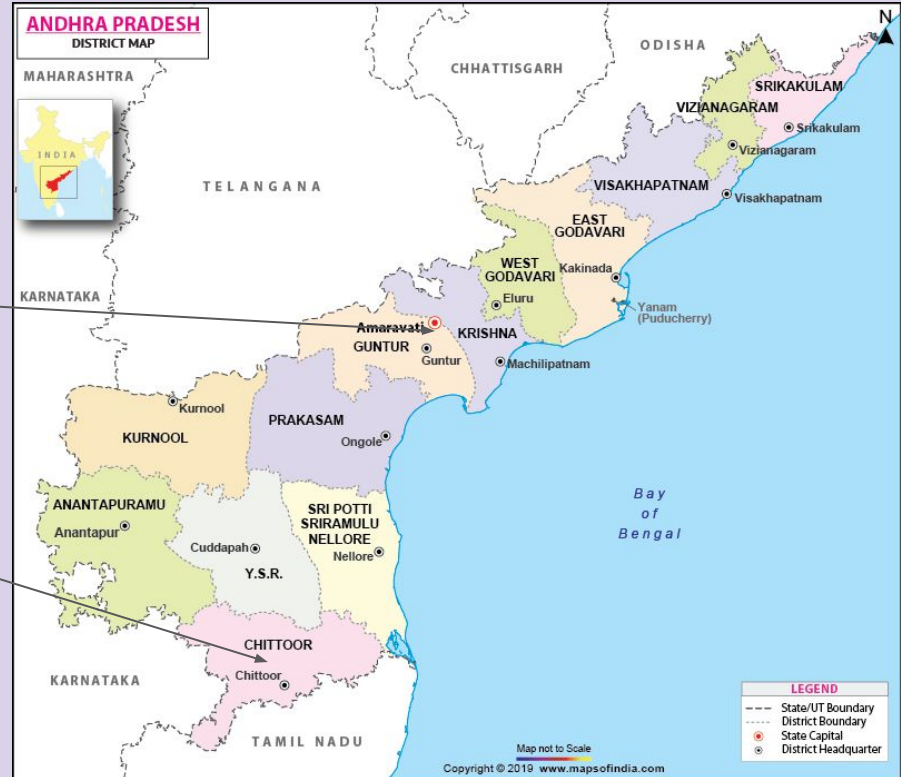
North Indian States



In India, we have **28 states** and **7 union territories**, including the Nation Capital Region of Delhi. Each state has a capital city and is ruled by its own state government.

Map of Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh is a state in India. Amravati is soon going to be the capital city. Chittoor, is a District in Andhra Pradesh. There are many small towns in Chittoor and one of them is Madanapalle, where you have your school, Rishi Valley.



New Delhi is the **Capital** of India. It is located in North India and lies in the national capital region of Delhi.



Rashtrapati Bhavan



Parliament House



India Gate

The **Central Government** works from New Delhi. The **President of India** is the honorary head of Indian government. The **Prime Minister** and his **Council of Ministers** at the Central Government look after safety and welfare of the people.

Every State has an independent **State Government**, which functions from the **State Capital**. The **Governor** of the state helps the **Chief Minister** and the **State Minister** to run the State Government.



Union Territories of India



There are some part of India which are directly run by the Central Government. They are called **Union Territories**.

India has Seven Union Territories:

1. Andaman & Nicobar Islands
2. Chandigarh
3. Dadra & Nagar Haveli
4. Daman & Diu
5. Lakshadweep
6. Puducherry
7. National Capital Territory of Delhi
8. Ladakh and J&K

People living in different states and union territories of India speak different languages, wear different clothes and have varied customs and traditions. Yet, all are Indians.

