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## **Chaper-1 Geography**

### **India - Size and Location**

#### **Location**

- India lies entirely in the Northern Hemisphere.
- India's mainland extends between  $8^{\circ}4'N$  and  $37^{\circ}8'N$  latitudes, and  $68^{\circ}7'E$  and  $97^{\circ}25'E$  longitudes.
- The Tropic of Cancer ( $23^{\circ}30'N$ ) divides India into two almost equal parts.

#### **Size**

- Covering an area of 3.28 million square kilometres, India's total area is 2.4% of the total geographical area of the world.
- India is the world's seventh largest country with a land boundary of about 15,200 km, with total length of the coastline being 7,516.6 km.
- India's east-west extent appears to be smaller than the north-south extent.

#### **India and the World**

- The Indian landmass is centrally located between West and East Asia.
- India's protruding Deccan Peninsula helped India to establish close contacts with West Asia, Africa and Europe, South-east and East Asia.
- India's contacts with the world via land routes are much more than her maritime contacts.
- India has 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.

#### **India's Neighbours**

- India has an important position in South Asia and has 28 States and 7 Union Territories.
  - India shares its boundaries with Pakistan, Afghanistan, China, Nepal, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Bhutan.
  - The southern neighbours across the sea consist of the two island countries, namely Maldives and Sri Lanka.
  - India stands apart from the rest of Asia.
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