

# India and Its States: Capitals & Specialities

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## About India

India, officially the Republic of India, is a diverse, democratic nation in South Asia. It spans the Himalayas to the Indian Ocean, hosts a mosaic of languages and cultures, and is the world's largest democracy. India's economy is one of the fastest-growing, with strengths in technology, manufacturing, agriculture, and services. Its cultural heritage includes ancient civilizations, classical arts, architecture, and festivals that vary widely across states.

## States, Capitals & Specialities

**Andhra Pradesh** (Capital: Amaravati) — Tirupati Balaji Temple, Kuchipudi dance, long coastline and fertile deltas (Godavari-Krishna).

**Arunachal Pradesh** (Capital: Itanagar) — Tawang Monastery, rich biodiversity, vibrant tribal cultures, pristine Himalayan landscapes.

**Assam** (Capital: Dispur) — World-famous tea gardens, Kaziranga National Park (one-horned rhinoceros), Bihu festivals.

**Bihar** (Capital: Patna) — Bodh Gaya (Buddha's enlightenment), Nalanda's ancient learning legacy, Madhubani art.

**Chhattisgarh** (Capital: Raipur) — Dense forests and waterfalls (Chitrakote), tribal handicrafts, mineral resources and steel.

**Goa** (Capital: Panaji) — Golden beaches, Portuguese-influenced heritage, churches of Old Goa, vibrant tourism.

**Gujarat** (Capital: Gandhinagar) — Gir National Park (Asiatic lions), crafts and textiles, Statue of Unity, dynamic industry.

**Haryana** (Capital: Chandigarh) — Agricultural productivity, sports excellence, and proximity to India's capital region.

**Himachal Pradesh** (Capital: Shimla) — Hill stations (Shimla, Manali), apple orchards, snow-clad peaks and adventure tourism.

**Jharkhand** (Capital: Ranchi) — Mineral wealth (coal, iron ore), dense forests, waterfalls (Dassam, Hundru), tribal culture.

**Karnataka** (Capital: Bengaluru) — India's tech hub (Bengaluru), UNESCO site Hampi, rich Carnatic music and cuisine.

**Kerala** (Capital: Thiruvananthapuram) — Backwaters (Alappuzha), Ayurveda, high literacy and health indices, Kathakali and Theyyam.

**Madhya Pradesh** (Capital: Bhopal) — Heart of India: Khajuraho temples, Sanchi Stupa, tiger reserves (Kanha, Bandhavgarh).

**Maharashtra** (Capital: Mumbai) — India's financial capital (Mumbai), Bollywood, Ajanta–Ellora caves, diverse coastal cuisine.

**Manipur** (Capital: Imphal) — Loktak Lake (phumdis), classical Manipuri dance, handloom and handicrafts.

**Meghalaya** (Capital: Shillong) — Living root bridges, Cherrapunji–Mawsynram rainfall belt, caves and verdant hills.

**Mizoram** (Capital: Aizawl) — Picturesque hills, bamboo dance (Cheraw), high literacy and cohesive community life.

**Nagaland** (Capital: Kohima) — Hornbill Festival, distinct Naga tribes and crafts, scenic highlands.

**Odisha** (Capital: Bhubaneswar) — Konark Sun Temple, Jagannath Puri, classical Odissi dance, handloom (Sambalpur).

**Punjab** (Capital: Chandigarh) — Golden Temple (Amritsar), vibrant Bhangra, robust agriculture and Punjabi cuisine.

**Rajasthan** (Capital: Jaipur) — Grand forts and palaces (Jaipur, Jodhpur, Udaipur), Thar Desert, colorful textiles and crafts.

**Sikkim** (Capital: Gangtok) — Organic-farming leadership, Khangchendzonga landscapes, monasteries and alpine flora.

**Tamil Nadu** (Capital: Chennai) — Dravidian temple architecture (Madurai, Thanjavur), Bharatanatyam, classical Carnatic music.

**Telangana** (Capital: Hyderabad) — Charminar and Golconda, pearl and IT industries, Deccani heritage and cuisine (biryani).

**Tripura** (Capital: Agartala) — Ujjayanta and Neermahal palaces, temples and handlooms, lush green hills.

**Uttar Pradesh** (Capital: Lucknow) — Taj Mahal (Agra), Varanasi ghats, Awadhi cuisine, rich composite Ganga-Jamuni culture.

**Uttarakhand** (Capital: Dehradun) — Himalayan pilgrimages (Char Dham), yoga capital Rishikesh, national parks (Jim Corbett).

**West Bengal** (Capital: Kolkata) — Cultural capital (literature, theatre), Durga Puja, Sundarbans mangroves and sweets (rosogolla).