# NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES OF INDIA AND IMPORTANT BOUNDARY LINES IN THE WORLD

### **India's Neighbouring Countries**

Neighbouring Country	Capital	The Indian State/UTs which share Border
Afghanistan	Kabul	Ladakh (PoK)
Bangladesh	Dhaka	West Bengal, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura and Assam
Bhutan	Thimphu	West Bengal, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh & Assam
China	Beijing	Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh
Myanmar	Yangon	Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram and Manipur
Nepal	Kathmandu	Bihar, Uttarakhand, UP, Sikkim and West Bengal
Pakistan	Islamabad	Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat
Sri Lanka	Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte (Legislative Capital) Columbo (Executive Capital)	It is separated from India by the Gulf of Mannar
Maldives	Male	It lies in the south-west part of India Ocean below the Lakshadweep Island.

## **Neighbouring Countries – A Brief Summary**

#### **Afghanistan**

Border Length- 106 km

Official Languages - Dari, Pashto

Currency - Afghan Afghani

States/ Provinces - 34 Provinces

Located in Central Asia, Afghanistan has an area of about 6,52,230 sq km. Major dependence of this country's economy is on agriculture. The prominent religion that is followed by the people in Afghanistan is Islam, and the main industrial activities include manufacturing of cotton textiles, woven carpets, handicrafts and woollens.

#### **Bangladesh**

Border Line - 4096.7 Km

Official Language - Bengali

Currency - Bangladeshi Taka

States/ Provinces – 8 Provinces

India and Bangladesh share one of the longest borders in the world and It covers an area of 1,43,998 sq km and has a coastline of 580 km. The Bangladeshi states, Rajshahi, Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, Rangpur and Sylhet, share their borders with India.

#### **Bhutan**

Border Line - 699 km

Official Language - Dzongkha

Currency - Bhutanese Ngultrum

**States/ Provinces –** 20 States

Spread over an area of 38, 394 sq km, the population of this country follows Buddhism followed by Hinduism. There is a parliamentary form of Government in Bhutan, and the primary sources of the economy include Hydropower, agriculture, forestry and tourism.

#### China

Border Line - 3488 km

Official Language - Mandarin

Currency - Chinese Yuan

States/Provinces - 26 Provinces

The world's most populated country, China, spreads over an area of about 95,96,960 sq km. The country is one of the world's fastest-growing economies. India and China hold cordial relations, but there are certain disputes which lead to strained relations between the two countries.

#### **Myanmar**

Border Line - 1643 km

Official Language – Burmese

Currency - Burmese Kyat

Located in the western portion of mainland South Asia Myanmar and is spread over an area of 6,76,578 sq km. The presidential republic governs the country by a bicameral legislature. India is Myanmar's fourth-largest export market.

#### Nepal

Border Line - 1751 km

Official Language - Nepali

Currency - Nepalese Rupee

States/Provinces – 7 Provinces

Nepal is located to the northeast of India and extended over an area of 1,47,181 sq km. The world's tallest peak, Mount Everest is located in Nepal. Also, eight of the tallest mountain peaks out of the 10 across the world, are located in Nepal. A major part of the economy is handled by tourism, and the Government is a federal parliamentary republic.

#### **Pakistan**

Border Line - 3323 km

Official Language - Urdu

Currency - Pakistani Rupee

States/Provinces - 4 Provinces

A country which was initially a part of India was separated to form a new country, named Pakistan. This country spans over an area of 7,96,095 sq km. The Prime Minister is the head of the country and all major decisions are made under his supervision.

#### Sri Lanka

Border Line - Sea Border

Official Language - Sinhala, Tamil

Currency - Sri Lankan Rupee

States/Provinces - 9 States

One of the two countries which share Indian coastline, Sri Lanka is spread over an area of 65,610 sq km. It is considered as a tourist destination by many and is one of those places which is home to many ethnic groups and religious cultures.

#### **Maldives**

Border Line - Sea Border

Official Language - Dhivehi

Currency - Maldivian Rufiyaa

States/ Provinces - 1 Only

Located in the Indian Ocean-Arabian sea area, the island nation of Maldives is located to the south-west of India. Spread over an area of 298 sq km only, Maldives comprises more than a thousand coral islands. The predominant religion in the country is Islam.

# **Important International Borders**

Name of Lines/Boundaries	Between	Features/ Description
17th Parallel	South Vietnam and North Vietnam	The 17th latitude from the equator divided erstwhile North and South Vietnam. It was demarcated based on the 1954 Geneva Accords. The 17th parallel became irrelevant after the unification of Vietnam in 1976.
20th Parallel	Libya and Sudan	It is located at the 20th northern latitude which is used as the border between Sudan and Libya.
22nd Parallel	Egypt and Sudan	The 22nd latitude north of the equator marks a major portion of the Sudan-Egypt border.
25th Parallel	Mauritania and Mali	The northernmost section of the Mali-Mauritania border is marked using this line.
31st Parallel	Iran and Iraq	The 31st northern latitude marks the border between Iraq and Iran. It also demarcates the border between the US states of Louisiana and Mississippi.
38th Parallel	South Korea and North Korea	The 38th parallel is used to demarcate the central part of the Demilitarized zone between North and South Korea.
49th Parallel	The USA and Canada	It is located 49 degrees north of the equator.  Demarcated after the Anglo-American Convention of 1818 and the Oregon Treaty of 1846, it forms the international border between the northern USA (Excluding Alaska) and Canada.
Durand Line	Pakistan and Afghanistan	Delimited by Sir Mortimer Durand with the agreement of the erstwhile Amir of Afghanistan in 1893.  Present-day Afghanistan does not recognize the Durand line.
Hindenburg Line	Poland and Germany	It was a German Defensive line in French territory during World War I It was rendered irrelevant by the treaty of Versailles in 1919.
McMahon Line	China and India	It was drawn by Sir Henry McMahon in consultation with Tibetan representatives in 1914. China disputes the legal status of this line but it is the de facto border between India and China.
Line of Control (LOC)	India and Pakistan	This is the military control line between India and Pakistan (in the state of Jammu & Kashmir)
Maginot Line	Germany and France	It was a defensive line at the French border towards Germany before World War II. The Maginot line was rendered obsolete following the successful invasion of France by Germany following the outbreak of World War II

Mannerheim Line	Russia and Finland	Finland built this as a defensive line against the Soviet Union for the Winter War during World War II.
Oder-Neisse Line	Poland and Germany	It runs along the rivers Oder and Lusatian Neisse rivers. It demarcates the Polish-German border according to the Potsdam Conference. It was recognized by a unified Germany in 1990.
Radcliffe Line	India and Pakistan	It was demarcated by Sir Cyril Radcliffe for the Partition of India and the formation of East and West Pakistan. It includes present-day India, Bangladesh and Pakistan.
Siegfried Line	France and Germany	It was built as an extension of the Hindenburg defensive line on the western front of World War I by the Weimar Republic and later the Third Reich of Germany in the 1930s.
Blue Line	Lebanon and Israel	A border demarcation between Lebanon and Israel published by the United Nations on 7 June 2000 for the purposes of determining whether Israel had fully withdrawn from Lebanon.
Purple Line	Israel and Syria	It is the Boundary Line between Israel and Syria
Green Line / Attila Line / UN Buffer Zone	The Republic of Cyprus and Turkish Cyprus	A demilitarized zone, patrolled by the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), that was established in 1964 and extended in 1974 after the ceasefire of 16 August 1974