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Chapter 7

India - Size & Location

Notes:-

- India is a vast country in size and population.
- India lies in northern hemisphere.
- The latitudinal and longitudinal extent of India is $8^{\circ}4'N$ to $37^{\circ}6'N$ and $68^{\circ}7'E$ to $97^{\circ}25'E$.
- India is divided in land, coastal areas, deserts, mountain and hills and islands.
- India covered approx 2.28 million sq. km of area.
- India stands 7th in world area.
- India covered almost 15000 km of land boundary.
- From three side India is surrounded by sea i.e. Bay of Bengal, Arabian sea and Indian Ocean.



- The latitudinal and longitudinal distance of India is equal i.e. 29° & 29° .
- In northern most part of India is situated with Himalayan ranges, the northern most part is situated with Pamir Knot in Indian Ocean, Andaman in east and Gujarat at west.
- India shares its land boundary with Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China and Myanmar.
- Lakshadweep is nearest island country to India.
- Lakshadweep and Maldives are separated by narrow channels, Malacca Strait and Gulf of Mannar.



Question / answers

Ques-1

Why India placed a vital strategic position in Indian ocean?

Ans-1

- India has a very important position in Indian ocean because it is the largest country in the Indian ocean.
- Indian ocean provides sea way for import and export and transportation to middle east, African and island countries.
- India only can use minerals like oil, manganese and others from Indian ocean.
- It provides India safety from enemies.

Ques-2

What is the longitudinal and latitudinal extension of India? What is its importance? Give two points?

Ans-

India lies between $68^{\circ}7'E$ to $97^{\circ}25'E$ longitude, and her latitudinal extent is $8^{\circ}4'N$ to $37^{\circ}6'N$.



Importance :

(i) India's geographical location is favourably important for international trade.

(ii) Due to its central location in the eastern hemisphere, India lies on the major trade routes.

Ques-2 In which hemisphere does India lie with reference to the Prime Meridian? Mention the value of the standard meridian of India.

Ans-2 India lies in the eastern hemisphere with reference to the Prime Meridian.

India lies to the east of the Prime Meridian, between $68^{\circ}7'E$ to $97^{\circ}25'E$.

India has accepted $82^{\circ}30'E$ longitude as the standard meridian of India.

Ques-3 What is standard meridian of India? Why it has been so selected?

Ans-3 We have accepted ~~at~~ $82^{\circ}30'E$ longitude as the standard meridian of India. It was accepted as it lies almost in the middle



standard Meridian has been selected because :-

(i) It has prevented a lot of confusion and has brought harmony in time throughout the country.

(ii) The local time at each longitude is different. So in order to follow one timing, India has accepted the $82^{\circ}30'E$ as the standard Meridian of India.

Ques $\Rightarrow$ In what way the central location of India in the Indian Ocean has been to its advantage?

Ans $\Rightarrow$

India is a centrally situated country in relation to west Asia, Africa and Europe on the western side and south-east Asia and Australia on the eastern side.

(i) India is favourably located on the world's highway of trade and commerce.

(ii) It has helped in establishing close cultural and commercial contacts with these countries.



Ques 6

What is the latitudinal extent of India? How is the latitudinal spread in India advantageous to her, state two points.

Ans:

The Indian Union is situated between about $8^{\circ}4'N$ and $37^{\circ}6'N$. This north-south extent is about 3200 km in length.

(i)

The southern part of India gets more heat from the sun than the northern parts.

(ii)

The difference between the duration of the day and night is less more in the northern parts than in the southern parts.

Long Answer

Ques 1

Describe the location and size of India in three points.

Ans:

Location:-

(i)

India is a vast country which lies in northern hemisphere.

(ii)

The mainland extends between latitudes $8^{\circ}4'N$ and $37^{\circ}6'N$ and longitudes $68^{\circ}7'E$ and $97^{\circ}25'E$.

(iii)

The tropic of Cancer ($23^{\circ}30'N$) divides the country into two equal parts.



Write:-

(i) The land mass of India has an area of 3.28 million sq. kms. India has a land boundary of about 15,200 km. and length of coastline including island is 7516.6 km.

(ii) India is the seventh largest country of the world.

Ques-2 "India has a long coastline which is advantageous". Explain.

Ans-2 (i) India has the longest coastline on the Indian Ocean. This long coastline (7517 km) has given a tremendous boost to India's maritime trade. Almost 90% of India's international trade is carried on through sea.

(ii) India has this long coastline mainly due to the Deccan peninsula extending into two water bodies, the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal.

(iii) India's central location at the head of the Indian Ocean and its long coastline have much helped in its interaction through the sea.



(iv) The sea routes passing through the ocean provide easy connectivity to India with the West and the East.

Ques-3 Why is India said to enjoy a strategic position with reference to the international trade route?

Ans-3) Unlike landlocked countries, it has an easy access to the outside world.

(ii) The ocean routes from East and South-East Asia, and Australia to Africa, and Europe pass through the Indian ocean.

(iii) India is connected with Europe, North America and South America through both the routes - the Cape of Good Hope and the Suez Canal.

(iv) India can also reach Canada and USA through the strait of Malacca after crossing the Pacific Ocean.

(v) India is favourably located on the world's highway of trade and commerce both to the East and the West.



Ques 1 Give a brief account of India's contacts with the outside world in ancient and medieval times.

Ans 1 (a)

India held an important position in the ancient world. It had trade relations with many countries. One of the famous land routes was connected to the famous silk route of China.

(ii) These routes contributed in the exchange of ideas and commodities since ancient times.

(iii) India had trade relations with South-East Asian countries like Cambodia, Java, Sumatra, Bali, Sri Lanka, Burma and Siam.

(iv) From the time of Harishcha, Indian traders started going to China, Afghanistan and Central Asian countries.

Very short answer

Ques 2 In which hemisphere does India lie with reference to the equator?

Ans 3

The Northern hemisphere.



Ques-2 Name the island group of India lying in the Bay of Bengal?

Ans- The Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Ques-3 Name the island group of India lying in the Arabian sea.

Ans- The Lakshadweep Islands.

Ques-4 What is the total land mass area of India?

Ans- 2.28 million sq. km.

Ques-5 What per cent of the world's land area is with India?

Ans- 2.42 per cent.

Ques-6 Which is the southernmost tip of the Indian mainland?

Ans- Kanyakumari or Kanniakumari.

Ques-7 Which is the southernmost point of the Indian Union?

Ans- The Indira point.

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Ques-8 Which island group of India lies to its south-west?

Ans⇒ The Lakshadweep Islands.

Ques-9 What is the time difference between the westernmost and the easternmost tips of India?

Ans⇒ Two hours.

Ques-10 Which longitude represents the standard meridian of India?

Ans⇒ Longitude of $82^{\circ}30'E$.

Ques-11 Which is the largest country of the world?

Ans⇒ Russia.

Ques-12 Name any two neighbours across India.

Ans⇒ Sri Lanka and Maldives.

Ques-13 Name any two neighbouring countries of India which are lying in the east.

Ans⇒ Myanmar and Bangladesh.



Ques 1) Which are the countries of South Asia which are landlocked?

Ans 1) Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka.

Ques 2) Which countries are situated on the northern borders of India?

Ans 2) China, Nepal, Bhutan.

Ques 3) Which are the islands in the Gulf of Mannar and Palk Strait?

Ans 3) Sri Lanka and India.

Ques 4) Which are the neighbouring countries in the north-west of India?

Ans 4) Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Ques 5) Which neighbouring country is situated in the south-west of India?

Ans 5) Maldives.

Ques 6) How many states does India consist of?

Ans 6) 28.

Ques 7) How many Union Territories does India consist of?