

India: Introduction

India is located in Southern Asia bordering the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal. Neighboring countries include Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, China, Nepal, and Pakistan. India has a diverse geology: upland plain (Deccan Plateau) in south, flat to rolling plain along the Ganges River, deserts in west, and the Himalayas in the north. The government is a federal republic; the chief of state is the president, and the head of government is the prime minister. India has a market economy in which the prices of goods and services are determined in a free price system. India is a member of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA) and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).



Capital City

New Delhi (+5.5 GMT)

Currency

Indian rupee (INR)

Languages

Hindi 43.6%, Bengali 8%, Marathi 6.9%, Telugu 6.7%, Tamil 5.7%, Gujarati 4.6%, Urdu 4.2%, Kannada 3.6%, Odia 3.1%, Malayalam 2.9%, Punjabi 2.7%, Assamese 1.3%, Maithili 1.1%, other 5.6%; note - English enjoys the status of subsidiary official language but is the most important language for national, political, and commercial communication; there are 22 other officially recognized languages: Assamese, Bengali, Bodo, Dogri, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Maithili, Malayalam, Manipuri, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Santali, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu; Hindustani is a popular variant of Hindi/Urdu spoken widely throughout northern India but is not an official language (2011 est.)

Religions

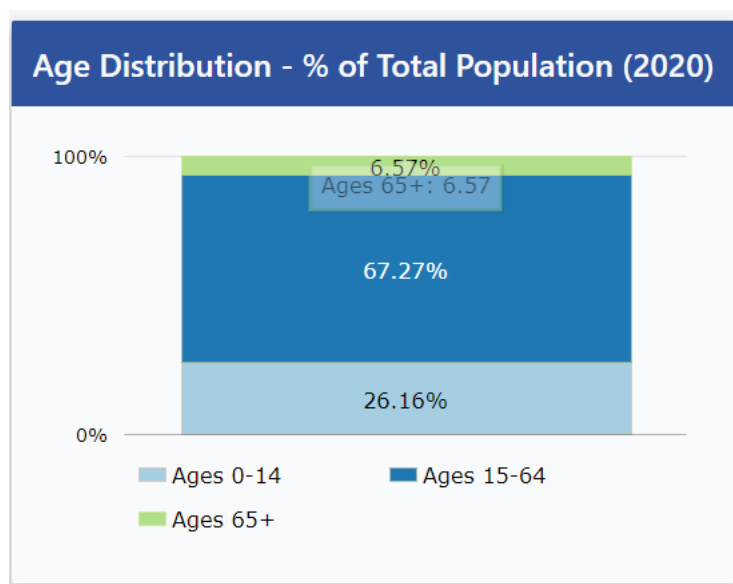
Hindu 79.8%, Muslim 14.2%, Christian 2.3%, Sikh 1.7%, other and unspecified 2% (2011 est.)

1 Indian Rupee equals

0.013 United States Dollar

People

Population	1,380,004,385 (2020)
Population Growth Rate	0.989 annual % (2020)
Age Dependency Ratio	48.665 % of working-age population (2020)
Urban Population	34.926 % of total (2020)
Infant Mortality Rate	28.3 per 1,000 live births (2019)
Life Expectancy at Birth	69.656 years (2019)



India: Government

Chief of State:

President Ram Nath Kovind

Head of Government:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Government Name:

Republic of India

Constitution:

Adopted: 1950; Lays down the framework for fundamental political principles, establishes structure, and sets out fundamental rights.

Government Type:

Federal Parliamentary Republic



Index of Economic Freedom



Grades each country on a scale of 0 to 100, based on ten freedoms, with 100 representing the greatest amount of economic autonomy from government intervention. **Source:** [Heritage Foundation](#) (2019)

Country Risk Rating

C

A very uncertain political and economic outlook and a business environment with many troublesome weaknesses can have a significant impact on corporate payment behavior. Corporate default probability is high. **Source:** [Coface](#) (2021)

A1

A2

A3

A4

B

C

D

E

Very Low Risk

Acceptable Risk

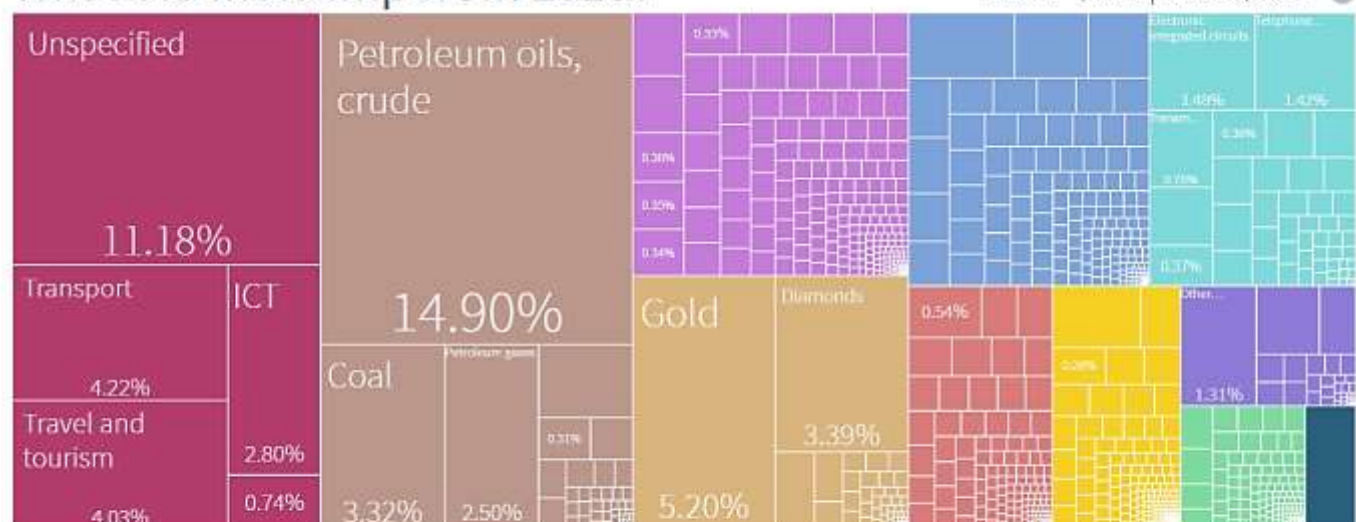
Very High Risk

Government Branches

	Main Powers	Election Process	Election Cycle ¹
Executive	The president serves as commander-in-chief, can grant pardon or reduce the sentence of a convicted person, and appoints various governors and other positions.	The president is indirectly elected by an electoral college.	5 years
Judicial	Enforces fundamental rights; issues directions, orders, or writs; and may direct the transfer of any civil or criminal case.	Appointed by the president.	Life appointment
Legislative	Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha are the main legislative bodies of government that are responsible for executing the legislative tasks of the government.	The Rajya Sabha has 233 members who are indirectly elected by the state legislatures. The Lok Sabha has 543 members who are elected by plurality vote in single-member constituencies and 2 members who are appointed by the president.	Lok Sabha: 5 years; Rajya Sabha: 6 years

What did India import in 2019?

Shown: \$568B | Total: \$568B



PRODUCT SECTORS

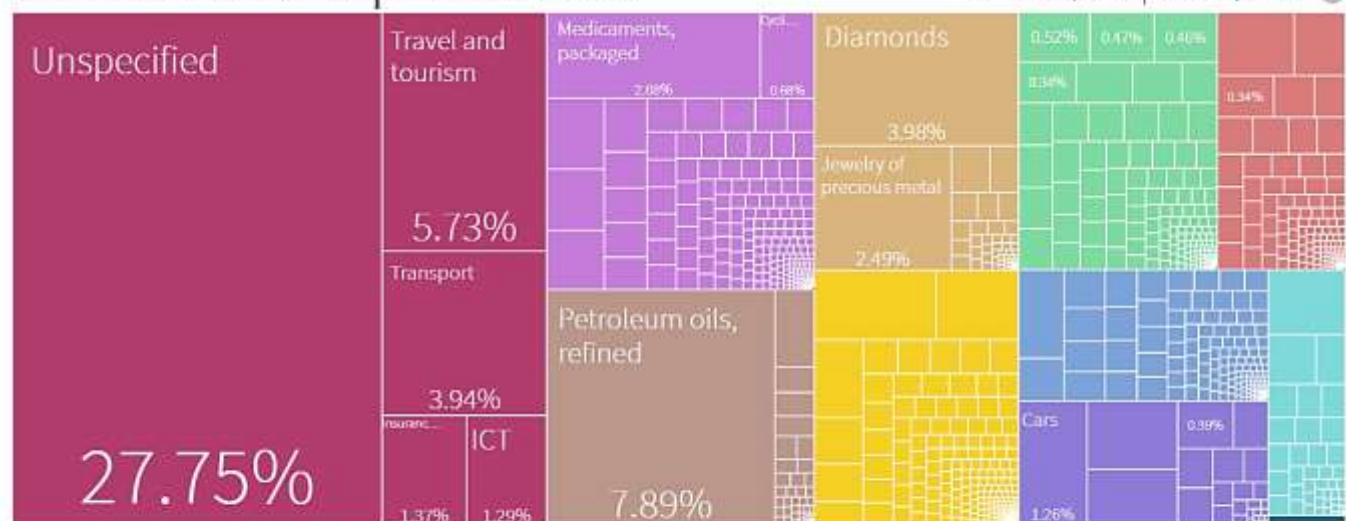
SEARCH IN
VISUALIZATION

201



What did India export in 2019?

Shown: \$536B | Total: \$536B



PRODUCT SECTORS

SEARCH IN
VISUALIZATION

2019



<https://atlas.cid.harvard.edu/explore?country=104&product=undefined&year=2019&tradeDirection=import&productClass=HS&target=Product&partner=undefined&startYear=undefined>

Business partners

Exporters	Select your indicators	
	Value imported in 2021 (USD thousand)	Share in India's imports (%)
World	570,402,004	100
China	87,535,136	15.3
United Arab Emirates	43,070,345	7.6
United States of America	41,386,816	7.3
Switzerland	29,492,003	5.2
Saudi Arabia	27,689,346	4.9
Iraq	26,566,073	4.7
Hong Kong, China	18,201,551	3.2
Singapore	18,201,531	3.2
Korea, Republic of	17,076,153	3
Indonesia	16,724,828	2.9

Importers	Select your indicators	
	Value exported in 2021 (USD thousand)	Share in India's exports (%)
World	394,813,673	100
United States of America	71,510,497	18.1
United Arab Emirates	25,446,639	6.4
China	23,036,597	5.8
Bangladesh	14,092,748	3.6
Hong Kong, China	11,290,061	2.9
Singapore	10,650,087	2.7
United Kingdom	10,374,395	2.6
Netherlands	10,284,461	2.6
Germany	9,513,606	2.4
Nepal	9,189,859	2.3

https://www.trademap.org/Country_SelProductCountry.aspx?nvpm=1%7c699%7c%7c%7cTOTAL%7c%7c%7c2%7c1%7c1%7c2%7c1%7c1%7c2%7c1%7c1%7c1

Economic Index

GDP (current US\$) – India

2,660,245.25

GDP, PPP (current international \$) – India

8,975,476.83

GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$) – India

6,503.9

GDP per capita (current US\$) – India

1,927.7

Gini index – India

35.7

Inflation, consumer prices (annual %) – India

6.6

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/FP.CPI.TOTL.ZG?locations=IN>

India: Economy

Income Level (by per capita GNI)	Lower Middle Income
Level of Development	Developing
Economic Trivia	India has the third largest economy in terms of PPP in the world.
Trade	Top 3 Trade Partners (2019): United States, China, and United Arab Emirates Top 3 Exported Goods (2019): Oil & Mineral Fuels, Precious Stones & Metals, and Industrial Machinery
Top Industries	Textiles; Chemicals; Food Processing; Steel

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) [\[1\]](#)

GDP, PPP (current international)	\$8,972,134,487,507 (2020)
GDP Growth Rate (annual %)	-7.252% (2020)
GDP Per Capita, PPP (current international)	

GDP Country Rank3/197 (2020)

GDP Composition %



Economic Indicators [\[1\]](#)

Inflation, consumer prices (annual %)	6.623% (2020)
External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US\$)	\$564,179,014,212 (2020)
Total tax rate (% of commercial profits)	49.7% (2019)
Real Interest Rate (5 year average %)	4.338% (2020)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP)	13.095% (2020)
Current Account Balance (BoP, current US\$)	\$32,730,048,588 (2020)

Labor and Employment [\[1\]](#)

Labor Force, Total	471,688,990 (2020)
Employment in Agriculture (% of total employment)	41.49% (2020)
Employment in Industry (% of total employment)	26.183% (2020)
Employment in Services (% of total employment)	32.327% (2020)
Unemployment Rate	7.11% (2020)

Trade [\[1\]](#)

Imports of goods and services (current US\$)	\$510,975,058,952 (2020)
Exports of goods and services (current US\$)	\$496,486,363,549 (2020)
Total Merchandise Trade (% of GDP)	24.402% (2020)
FDI, net inflows (BoP, current US\$)	\$50,610,647,354 (2019)
Commercial Service Exports (current US\$)	\$202,492,396,705 (2020)

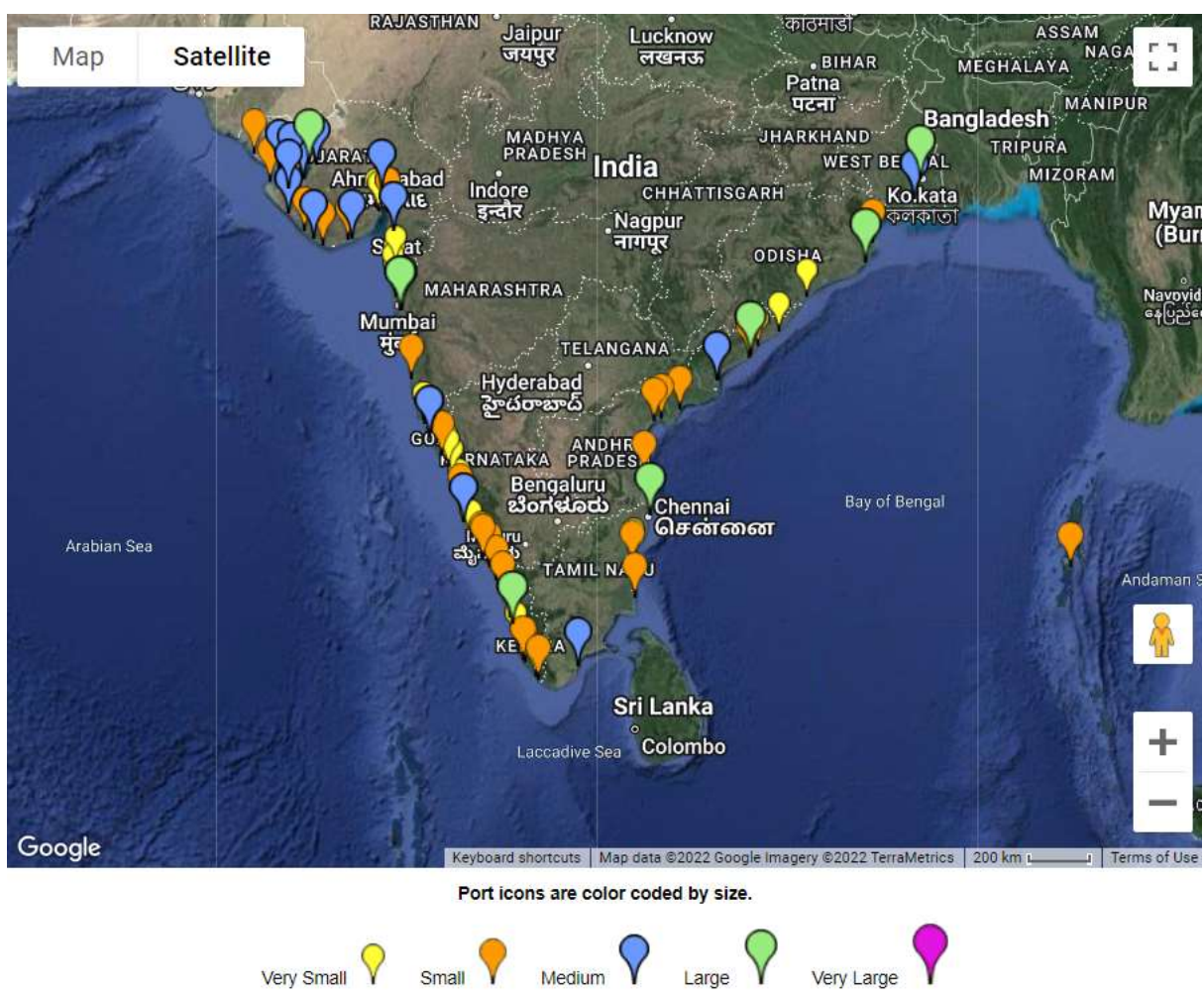
MAJOR CITIES

- Mumbai
- Delhi
- Bangalore
- Kolkata
- Chennai

Logistics

Ports:

India has **12 major** and **205 notified minor and intermediate** ports.



Port of Chennai

Port Location:	Chennai
Port Name:	Port of Chennai
Local Port Name:	Port of Madras
Port Authority:	Chennai Port Trust
Address:	Rajaji Salai Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600 001 India
Phone:	91 44 25362201
Fax:	91 44 25361228
800 Number:	
Email:	diredp@chennaiport.gov.in
Web Site:	www.chennaiport.gov.in
Latitude:	13° 6' 40" N
Longitude:	80° 18' 3" E
UN/LOCODE:	INMAA
Port Type:	Seaport
Port Size:	Large

Port of Cochin

Port Location:	Cochin (Kochi)
Port Name:	Port of Cochin
Local Port Name:	Port of Kochi
Port Authority:	Cochin Port Trust
Address:	Willingdon Island Cochin 682009 India
Phone:	91 484 266 6871
Fax:	91 484 266 8163
800 Number:	
Email:	mail@cochinport.com
Web Site:	www.cochinport.com
Latitude:	9° 58' 4" N
Longitude:	76° 15' 26" E
UN/LOCODE:	INCOK
Port Type:	Seaport
Port Size:	Large

Port of Haldia

Port Location:	Haldia
Port Name:	Port of Haldia
Local Port Name:	Haldia Dock Complex (HDC)
Port Authority:	Kolkata Port Trust
Address:	Haldia, Purba Medinipur, West Bengal 721657 India
Phone:	91-03224 263-114
Fax:	
800 Number:	
Email:	haldia.dock@nic.in
Web Site:	www.kolkataporttrust.gov.in
Latitude:	22° 2' 13" N
Longitude:	88° 5' 54" E
UN/LOCODE:	INHAL
Port Type:	Seaport
Port Size:	Medium

Nhava Sheva

Port Location:	Jawaharlal Nehru
Port Name:	Nhava Sheva
Local Port Name:	Jawaharlal Nehru Port
Port Authority:	Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT)
Address:	Administrative Building Sheva Navi, Maharashtra 400707 India
Phone:	91-22-7242322
Fax:	91-22-7242325
800 Number:	
Email:	jawahar@giabm01.vsnl.net.in
Web Site:	www.jnport.com
Latitude:	18° 57' 6" N
Longitude:	72° 56' 59" E
UN/LOCODE:	INNSA
Port Type:	Seaport
Port Size:	Large

Port of Kolkata

Port Location:	Kolkata (Calcutta)
Port Name:	Port of Kolkata
Local Port Name:	Port of Calcutta
Port Authority:	Calcutta Port Trust
Address:	15 Strand Road Kolkata 700 001 India
Phone:	91-33 2230-3451
Fax:	91-33 2220-4901
800 Number:	
Email:	portofcalcutta@portofcalcutta.com
Web Site:	www.kolkataporttrust.gov.in
Latitude:	22° 32' 13" N
Longitude:	88° 18' 23" E
UN/LOCODE:	INCCU
Port Type:	River Port
Port Size:	Large

Port of Mumbai

Port Location:	Mumbai
Port Name:	Port of Mumbai
Local Port Name:	Port of Bombay
Port Authority:	Mumbai Port Trust
Address:	Port House Shoorji Vallabhdas Marg Mumbai, Maharastra 400 001 India
Phone:	66565656
Fax:	91 22 22611011
800 Number:	
Email:	mbpt@vsnl.com
Web Site:	www.mumbaiport.gov.in
Latitude:	18° 56' 31" N
Longitude:	72° 53' 7" E
UN/LOCODE:	INBOM
Port Type:	Deepwater Seaport
Port Size:	Large

Port of Mundra

Port Location:	Mundra
Port Name:	Port of Mundra
Port Authority:	Adani Group
Address:	Post Box No. 1 Mundra (Kutch), Gujarat 370421 India
Phone:	91-2838-289248
Fax:	91-2838-289200
800 Number:	
Email:	mktg@portofmundra.com
Web Site:	www.portofmundra.com
Latitude:	22° 44' 13" N
Longitude:	69° 42' 29" E
UN/LOCODE:	INMUN
Port Type:	Seaport
Port Size:	Medium

Port of Pipavav

Port Location:	Pipavav
Port Name:	Port of Pipavav
Port Authority:	Gujarat Pipavav Port Ltd.
Address:	Port of Pipavav Post Uchaiya via Rajula District Amreli, Gujarat 365 560 India
Phone:	91-22-2438 3301
Fax:	91-22-2438 3332
800 Number:	
Email:	
Web Site:	www.pipavav.com
Latitude:	20° 55' 8" N
Longitude:	71° 30' 15" E
UN/LOCODE:	
Port Type:	Seaport
Port Size:	Medium

Port of Visakhapatnam

Port Location:	Visakhapatnam
Port Name:	Port of Visakhapatnam
Port Authority:	Visakhapatnam Port Trust
Address:	Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh 530 035 India
Phone:	91 891 2564841
Fax:	91 891 2565023
800 Number:	
Email:	info@vizagport.com
Web Site:	www.vizagport.com
Latitude:	17° 41' 36" N
Longitude:	83° 17' 22" E
UN/LOCODE:	INVTZ
Port Type:	Seaport
Port Size:	Large

<http://www.worldportsource.com/countries.php>

Logistics

Airports:

Airports Authority of India (AAI) manages a total of **137 Airports**, which includes 103 Domestic Airports, 24 International Airports, and 10 Customs Airports.

Major Airports in India

- Delhi Indira Gandhi International Airport (DEL)
- Mumbai Chhatrapathi Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (BOM)
- Bengaluru Kempegowda International Airport (BLR)
- Chennai International Airport (MAA)
- Kolkata Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport (CCU)

Internet Penetration rate in India

With the world's second largest population, India holds huge potential for marketers from all over the world.

The country's 1.2 billion inhabitants have embraced social, digital and mobile technology too, and India's online ecosystem offers some truly startling numbers.

To start with, here are the top headlines:

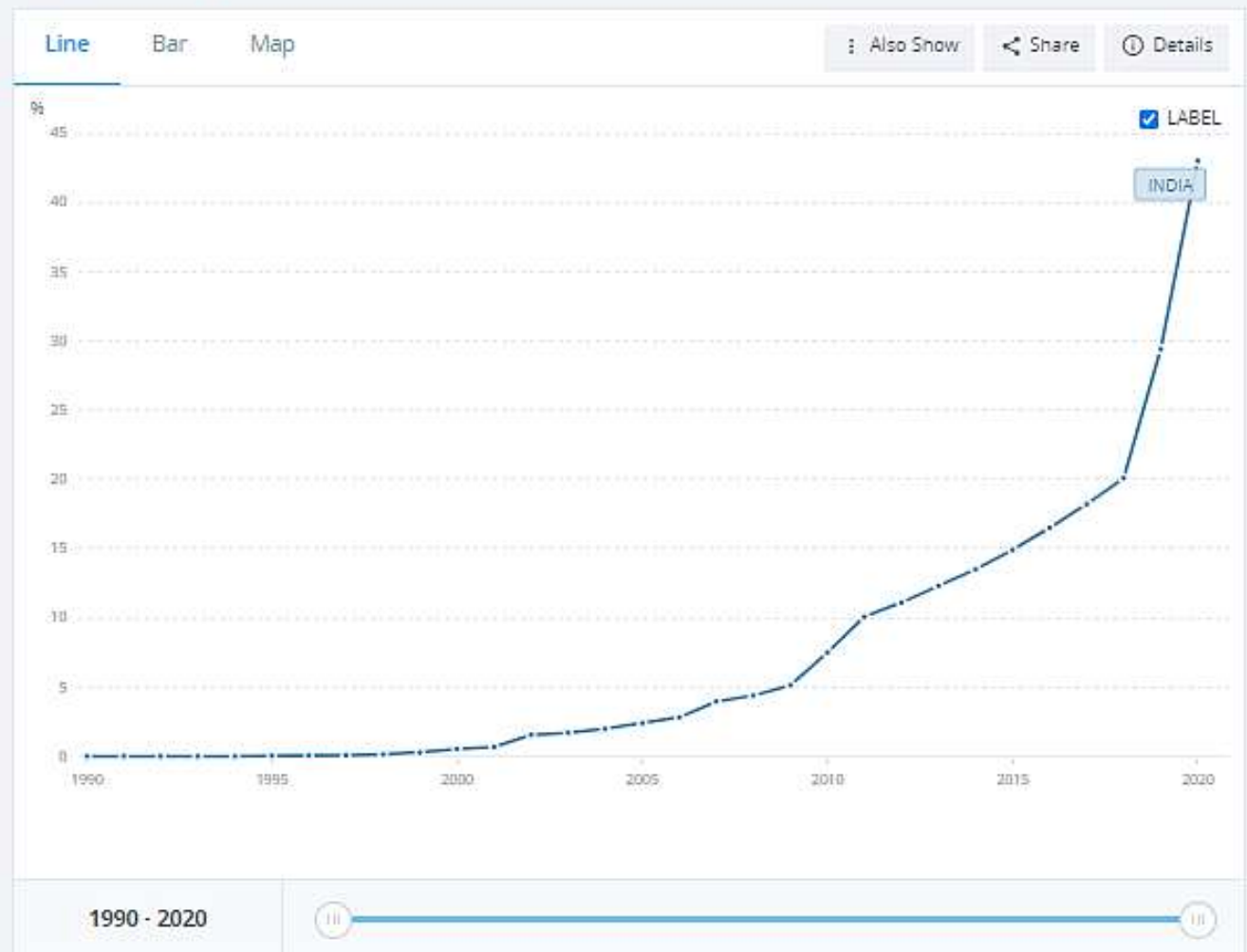
- India has 137 million internet users – more people than the total population of Japan.
- More than 60 million people in India use social networks – equivalent to the total population of Italy.
- India is home to a staggering 934 million mobile subscriptions – equivalent to more than 13% of the world's entire population.

<https://datareportal.com/>

Individuals using the Internet (% of population) - India

International Telecommunication Union (ITU) World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database

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Selected Countries and Economies

Country	Most Recent Year	Most Recent Value	
India	2020	43	

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/IT.NET.USER.ZS?locations=IN>

Browser Market Share in India - May 2022

Chrome	88.28%
Safari	2.76%
Opera	2.51%
Firefox	1.83%
UC Browser	1.52%
Samsung Internet	1.23%

Social Media Stats in India - May 2022

Facebook	62.67%
Instagram	20.09%
YouTube	12.36%
Twitter	2.75%
Pinterest	1.45%
reddit	0.31%

<https://gs.statcounter.com/social-media-stats/all/india>

Indian culture: Customs and traditions



Indian culture is among the world's oldest as the people of India can track their civilization back as far as 4,500 years ago. Many sources describe it as "Sa Prathama Sanskrati Vishvavara" — the first and the supreme [culture](#) in the world, according to the [All World Gayatri Pariwar\(opens in new tab\)](#) (AWGP) organization.

Western societies did not always see the culture of India very favorably, according to Christina De Rossi, an anthropologist at Barnet and Southgate College in London. Early anthropologists once considered culture as an evolutionary process, and "every aspect of human development was seen as driven by evolution," she told Live Science. "In this view, societies outside of Europe or North America, or societies that did not follow the European or Western way of life, were considered primitive and culturally inferior. Essentially this included all the colonized countries and people, such as African countries, India, and the Far East."

However, Indians made significant advances in architecture ([Taj Mahal](#)), mathematics ([the invention of zero](#)) and medicine ([Ayurveda](#)) well in advance of many western civilizations.

POPULATION OF INDIA

Today, India is a very diverse country, with more than 1.3 billion people, according to the [CIA World Factbook\(opens in new tab\)](#), making it the second most populous nation in the world after [China](#). Some estimates, such as those by [Statista\(opens in new tab\)](#), place the population at very nearly 1.4 billion. The ethnic makeup of India, according to the CIA is 72 percent Indo-Aryan (a coverall term for people of largely Central Asian descent) and 25 percent are Dravidian (being largely of South Asian descent).

About 35 percent of the population lives in urban areas with an estimated annual rate of a little over 2 percent moving to cities each year. New Delhi is the most populous city in India with a population of 31.18 million people, according to the CIA, second only to Tokyo, Japan for its population size. Mumbai is the second largest city in India with 20.67 million people, followed by Kolkata, Bangalore, Chennai and Hyderabad, all with more than 10 million people.

According to Statista, 26.16 percent of India population was under 14-years-old as of 2020, 67.27 were aged 15 to 64 and 6.57 percent were 65 or older.

LANGUAGES OF INDIA

India has 28 states and seven territories, according to the [World Health Organization](#)(opens in new tab). There is no official language in India, according to a [Gujarat High Court ruling in 2010](#)(opens in new tab), though Hindi is the official language of the government and English is considered a subsidiary official language. The Constitution of India officially recognizes 23 official languages. Many people living in India write in Devanagari script. In fact, it is a misconception that the majority of people in India speak Hindi. Though many people speak Hindi in India, at least 56 percent of Indian residents speak something other than Hindi, according to the CIA. Bengali,, Marathi, Telugu Tamil, Gujarati and Urdu are some other languages spoken in the country.

Sanskrit, an ancient Indo-European language, came from Northern India. How the language started has been a point of argument amongst linguists. It shares many similarities with English, French, Farsi and Russian languages.

New [DNA](#) research in 2017 found that an [Aryan migration](#) may have introduced the beginnings of Sanskrit. "People have been debating the arrival of the Indo-European languages in India for hundreds of years," said study co-author Martin Richards, an archaeogeneticist at the University of Huddersfield in England. "There's been a very long-running debate about whether the Indo-European languages were brought from migrations from outside, which is what most linguists would accept, or if they evolved indigenously."

RELIGION IN INDIA

India is identified as the birthplace of Hinduism and Buddhism, the third and fourth largest religions in the world. About 84 percent of the population identifies as Hindu, according to the "[Handbook of Research on Development and Religion](#)(opens in new tab)," edited by Matthew Clarke (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2013).

There are many variations of Hinduism, and four predominant sects — Shaiva, Vaishnava, Shakteya and Smarta.

About 13 percent of Indians are Muslim, making it one of the largest Islamic nations in the world. Christians and Sikhs make up a small percentage of the population, and there are even fewer Buddhists and Jains, according to the "Handbook."

The CIA cited similar figures. According to its World Factbook, around 80 percent of the population is Hindu, 14.2 percent is Muslim, 2.3 percent is Christian, 1.7 percent is Sikh and 2 percent is unspecified.

INDIAN HOLIDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS

[Diwali](#) is the largest and most important holiday to India. It is a five-day festival known as the festival of lights because of the lights lit during the celebration to symbolize the inner light that protects them from spiritual darkness.

Holi, the festival of [colors](#), also called the festival of love, is popular in the spring. The country also celebrates Republic Day (Jan. 26), Independence Day (Aug. 15) and [Mahatma Gandhi](#)'s birthday (Oct. 2).

GREETINGS

Man greeting Man - Light handshakes are common after the initial "Namaste". Sometimes the Namaste alone will suffice.

Woman greeting Woman - Light handshakes are common after the initial "Namaste". Sometimes the Namaste alone will suffice.

Greetings between Men & Women - In formal and business situations it is usually best to let the women initiate contact, if at all. Many Indian women will avoid contact with men in public situations. The "Namaste" is the most common form of greeting.

Note: Most all meetings generally begin with palms pressed together at around chest level and saying, "Namaste" or "Namaskar" (which is more formal). People usually nod or bow slightly as well.

When greeting an elder, there is also a touching of the feet of the elder, with the right hand, then touching your chest. After this, the palms are pressed together. Foreigners are not expected to do this, but should when meeting those of extremely high status like a religious leader or guru.

Hugs and kisses as a form of greeting should be avoided.

COMMUNICATION STYLE

- When communicating it's often the case that Indians will tell you what you want to hear in order to be polite. It's best to be patient and see what actions follow the communication.
- Indians tend to favor an indirect style of communication over direct.

PERSONAL SPACE & TOUCHING

- The comfortable amount of personal space during conversations in India varies with different sub-cultures. In general Hindus tend to stand about 3 or 3 ½ feet apart.
- Indians are not too conscious of their personal space on trains & buses where everyone is usually squashed together.
- Indians do not generally touch as part of communication, although it is common to see male friends holding hands or with their arms around each other when they walk. This is usually a sign of friendship.
- Men and women hardly ever display any form of physical affection in public. Touching of any kind between men and women especially when not related can be interpreted as flirting.
- Cupping the face of someone in your hands to show affection is common in families, especially between mothers and children.

EYE CONTACT

- Sustained eye contact is not generally the norm, especially a woman looking at a man.
- If doing business, it's not uncommon to keep eye contact, but it may seem odd to hold it intently for a while. The best option is to look away or even down once in a while. This can be accomplished effortlessly by simply using the looking away as a chance to gather your thoughts.
- Note that as a foreigner, one can expect to be stared at. Especially in rural areas.
- When communicating with elders it is common to use indirect eye contact.
- Direct eye contact is becoming a little more acceptable in the cities but in some parts of the country it can be inappropriate and rude to have direct eye contact. Especially for women to give eye contact to the husbands.

VIEWS OF TIME

- There is a well-accepted joke among Indians about IST (Indian Standard Time). This basically means that if you have an appointment at noon, you can expect to have your party arrive or for the meeting to begin anywhere from 30 minutes to a day later. It's best to expect at least an hour delay (although you should be punctual within about 15 minutes).
- Time is viewed as eternal. Indians usually have a "chalta hain" or a relaxed attitude. It is not usually considered rude to be late in social situations.
- Trains and buses don't really run on time. People give their time freely for the most part.

GENDER ISSUES

- Depending on the area, women's rights are either established, dawning, or basically non-existent.
- Smaller, rural areas see women as caregivers, mothers, and not much more, although Women's Rights groups are beginning to crop up.
- More progressive areas like the state of Kerala have women's roles comparable to men.
- Foreign women are given more slack in terms of dress, but travelers should wear whatever clothing is accepted in that region.
- Some areas do experience "eve teasing," or sexual harassment. This is not as common in cities.
- Accepted roles are generally a housewife, mother, homemaker etc. In villages women are usually involved in cottage industries, farming etc.
- Traditional Indian women do not drink or smoke.

GESTURES

- It is common to remove one's shoes at places of worship, when visiting people's homes, and even in certain shops and businesses. A good rule to follow is if you see shoes arranged near the door, take yours off as well.
- People beckon one another by extending an arm and making a scratching motion with their fingers, palm facing down.
- The head wobble, which is very common throughout the country can mean "yes" and not "no". It depends on the angle and expression and the speed to determine which is which.
- Pointing with one finger is common.
- One usually always eats with the right hand as the left hand is considered unclean.

TABOOS

- Lewd behavior and even simple PDA (public displays of affection) are highly frowned upon.
- Avoid touching people or moving/passing objects with your shoes.
- Winking and whistling should be avoided.
- Grasping the ears signifies sincerity or repentance, since ears are considered sacred, pulling or boxing one's ears is a grave insult.

LAW & ORDER

- Alcohol consumption prohibited in some states and banned in some cities deemed "holy".

- The drinking age ranges from 18-25 depending on which area of the country you are in. One can usually buy alcohol without an ID as well as cigarettes.
- The legal smoking age is 18.
- Drugs are illegal in India. Possession of small amounts can carry a mandatory 10 year sentence. Drug laws are heavily enforced. Drunken driving is also looked upon strictly.

DRESS

- Dress is quite conservative for both men and women.
- **For men:** conservative, dark colored suits. Wear shoes that are easy to slip on and off if possible.
- **For women:** conservative business suits or dresses and blouses are appropriate. Avoid tight fitting, short shirts, and sleeveless attire. Dresses should not reveal too much of the legs. Usually traditional dress like the "salwar kameez" or "sari" is acceptable.
- Dress in hotter seasons and parts of the country tends to be less formal.
- Jeans and business casual attire are not recommended for a first meeting.

TITLES & BUSINESS CARDS

- Titles are very important and it is best to address people directly by using their professional title or Mr., Mrs., or Miss, followed by the surname.
- It's best to wait to be invited before using someone's first name.
- Business cards are usually handed out after the initial handshake and greeting.
- Always present and receive business cards with your right hand.

MEETINGS

- Arrive at meetings on time even though you may be kept waiting
- Meetings usually begin with a fair amount of small-talk and many times no business is discussed in the initial meeting.
- Good topics of conversation include marital status, family, your educational background, where you grew up, sports.
- Avoid topics such as politics, religions, the caste system, the Kashmir region.
- It is best to send along a proposed agenda and/or supplemental materials in advance of the meeting.
- As India is a very hierarchical society, it is best to defer to the most senior person in the room.

NEGOTIATIONS

- Indians are non-confrontational and value relationship building and harmony so avoid hard selling, pressure tactics and any sort of conflict or confrontation.
- Decisions can take time and are usually made by the most senior person.
- Do not disagree publicly with members of your negotiating team, maintain harmony at all costs.
- Indians value an indirect communication style and will usually avoid using no. They tend to say, "maybe", or "that would be difficult".

- is a diverse country. Some of the well established business houses and other communities are known for driving hard bargains.
- Discounts are expected and so is bargaining. Typically the customer has a price in mind and bargains to get to that price. The vendors normally are prepared for the negotiation and the price to which they need to settle to.
- You should remain calm even though the Indian party may show emotion. You should wait for sometime for the decision to be made. Again it depends on the urgency of the situation.

GIFT GIVING

- It is not necessary to bring a gift to a first meeting, although it will be accepted graciously.
- Wrapping presents in green, yellow and/or red is the way to go. Avoid black and white.
- To be on the safe side avoid insulting your host's religion, stay away from any leather, alcohol, pigskin or dog related gifts.
- Safe gifts include chocolates or flowers (no frangipani or white flowers, they are for funerals).
- Gifts are not opened in the presence of the giver. Wait until giver leaves if its wrapped.
- If you give money to an Indian as a gift make sure its an odd number \$11 instead of \$10. Usually add a single digit.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Avoid the heat by visiting between October and March.

CLASS RULES

- The school year begins in June and ends in March/April Vacations happen in summer from March /April till June.
- There is a short vacation in October/November as well for the festival called diwali.
- For men and women jeans, t shirts are acceptable dress. Shorts are unacceptable for men in most colleges. Short skirts, shorts and tops are unacceptable for women. Also women should not wear low necked tops.
- Grades are usually in percentage and marks are usually given on a scale of 100. Failing will be below 40 or 45.
- Lecture is the most common method of teaching.
- Respecting teachers is important. Male teachers are addressed as "sir" while female teachers are addressed as "madam."

SOCIALIZING

- Drinking to an excess is not acceptable. Smoking is also fine but not excessively.
- Men ask women out usually. Men are not very forward and neither are women.
- Students usually socialize by going to discos, parties, and movies.
- Lunch or a movie is fine for a first date. Kissing on a first date may not be acceptable. Holding hands is possible.

Events and Festivals in India

1. Diwali- *Festival of Lights*

This pan Indian festival, famous for lighting up our lives, Diwali is joyously celebrated globally now. Sending a powerful message of the triumph of good over evil, the festival is celebrated in every nook and corner of the country. People enjoy the festival of lights by beginning the day with an auspicious pooja, followed by welcoming the night with new traditional clothes, sweets and glowing deeyas. The houses are decorated with

garlands of electric lights and colourful rangolis. Ignite the light of brotherhood and goodness in you being through the festival of Diwali.

2. Holi- Festival of Colors

The Pandora box of wholesome fun and good-natured pranks characterize the atmosphere in the colorful festival of Holi. This festival is also slowly gaining popularity in the global sphere. Holi is celebrated by throwing and applying colors on each other, in myriad hues of jubilation. The festival is even played by throwing and splashing water on each other, via a friendly weaponry of water guns and water balloons. Immerse yourself in the pinks, greens and reds of Holi, and forget all your blues for this day.

3. Christmas- Birth of Jesus Christ

The birth of Jesus Christ is celebrated with ecstatic merriment and wonderful joy, throughout India. The warm smell of walnut cakes can be inhaled in every household. As if captivated by a confetti of Santa caps, Christmas sees the prevalence of these caps and reindeer headgear decorating the heads of civilians. Many people decorate Christmas trees in their homes with colourful stars and hanging balls. People also visit the Church to seek the holy blessings of Christ on this auspicious festival.

4. Dussehra- Vijayadasami

The culmination of the 9 days of Navrati, end in the 10th day of Dussehra. The key attraction of this festival is the burning down of the effigies of Ravan and his two brothers, symbolic of when Lord Rama destroys Ravan in the epic tale of Ramayana. The effigies are filled with firecrackers, resulting in a cacophony of loud sounds as the entire- almost 100 feet high- structure breaks down. This is followed by even loud cheers from the crowd, that celebrate the symbolic feat. At some places, the days following up to Dussehra are marked by portraying the entire Ramayana through street plays called Ramlila.

5. Durga Puja- Durgotsava or Navaratri

A festival celebrating the powerful Goddess Durga, Durga Puja is a major festival for the Bengalis in India. The colourful and high energy festival is celebrated by decorating huge pandals, in the middle of which a heavily decorated idol of Goddess Durga sits. The festival is marked by a lot of dancing, singing and wholesome enjoyment. Celebrations of Durga Puja in Kolkata is a can't-miss sight, it is really a lifetime opportunity to witness a festival in the heart of its existence.

6. Janmashtmi- Birth of Lord Krishna

The revered Hindu God, Lord Krishna's birthday, is celebrated as Janmashtmi prominently in North India. However, the main festivities take place in Vrindavan and Mathura, the birth place of Krishna. Here, the temples are filled with throngs of people, fasting on this auspicious day and waiting for the temple priest to reveal the Krishna idol at the exact time of his birth. Elsewhere, the festival is celebrated with much gusto, with programs in the local community dedicated to the life stories of Krishna, depicted in an artistic manner.

7. Ganesh Chaturthi- Vinayaka Chaturthi

Prominently celebrated in the state of Maharashtra, the festival of Ganesh Chaturthi is the exemplar of a culturally charged environment. The festival spans over a period of 10 days, the last of which is marked with the maximum amount of revelry. Humungous idols of Lord Ganesha are carried to the sea shore for the procession of Visarjan, immersing the idol inside the water body. The walk from one's home to the sea shore is filled with a rich amount of dancing and singing.

8. Eid-UI-Fitr- Marks the End of Ramadan

Eid-UI-Fitr is a major festival for Muslims in India. The festival is marked by people visiting the mosque for an auspicious prayer, wearing new clothes and preparing delicacies like sewainyan to be savoured. Children are given idi, a small token of money as a gift and relatives exchange sweets and gifts with each other. It is a festival that celebrates brotherhood among humanity.



9. Onam- Harvest Festival of Kerala

An important festival of Kerala, the festival of Onam is a very colourful affair. People celebrate by decorating their house with various floral arrangements and women wear the gorgeous white and golden border sarees. The festival is marked by Kathakali dances and theatrical plays of artists dressed as tigers and hunters.

10. Raksha Bandhan- Rakhi or “Bond of Protection”

Raksha Bandhan is a festival celebrating the eternal bond of brothers and sisters. In this festival, sisters tie an auspicious thread to the brother's wrist, as a symbol of protection, that the brother bestows on her. In return, the sister receives varieties of gifts and goodies from her brother. People dress up in fine clothes and eat traditional sweets during this festival.

Traditional and Popular Indian Foods

1. Biryani

2. Tandoori Chicken

3. Masala Dosa



4. Dal Makhani



5. Gulab Jamun



Import Tariffs



Includes information on average tariff rates and types that U.S. firms should be aware of when exporting to the market.

Last published date: 2021-10-23

Information on average tariff rates for various goods is also available in USTR's National Trade Estimate at the link above. The government of India (GOI) has consistently raised tariff and non-tariff barriers to protect domestic suppliers across most sectors. For example, in February 2021 in its 2021-2022 Annual Budget, the government of India (GOI) increased tariffs for 31 product categories including cotton, palm oil, denatured ethanol for select end-use, solar inverters and solar lanterns, and shelled walnuts.

<https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/india-import-tariffs>

Prosperity Ranking



Ranks

101st on the Legatum

Prosperity Index™

Safety & Security139th

Personal Freedom106th

Governance51st

Social Capital68th

Investment Environment75th

Enterprise Conditions51st

Infrastructure & Market Access78th

Economic Quality91st

Living Conditions122nd

Health111th

Education118th

Natural Environment160th

<https://www.prosperity.com/globe/india>

India

DB Rank



DB Score



Rankings on Doing Business topics (1-190) - India



Topic Scores (0-100) - India



Starting a business

No.	Procedures	Time to Complete	Associated Costs
1.	<p>Obtain a digital signature certificate <i>Agency : Authorized private agency (Federal)</i> The applicant must obtain a Class-II Digital Signature Certificate from a certification agency authorized by the Controller of Certification Agencies. These include private agencies like NIC, E-Mudhra, MTNL Trust line, to which company directors submit the prescribed application form along with notarized proof of identity and address.</p> <p>For obtaining DSC, along with the documents (i.e., Proof of Identity and Proof of Address), a verification video must be submitted by the applicant, stating the name, company name, mobile number, email and intention for applying for DSC. Upon submitting the online application, a hard copy of the form has to be submitted along with supporting documents to the authorized private agency.</p> <p>A Class-II Digital Signature Certificate can be obtained for either a period of 1 year or a period of 2 years, and then needs to be renewed for another 1 or 2 years upon payment of renewal fees. Each agency has its own fee structure, starting from INR 700. The cost will vary in accordance with the duration of the Digital Signature Certificate. Once the Digital Signature Certificate is obtained, the authorized personnel (directors/manager/secretary) are required to register</p>	2 days	INR 700 to INR 2,500 per Digital Signature Certificate
2.	<p>Reserve the company name online through "Reserve Unique Name" system (RUN) <i>Agency : Registrar of Companies, Ministry of Corporate Affairs (Federal)</i> The company first looks up the availability of a name on the MCA website (http://www.mca.gov.in/mcafoportal/showCheckCompanyName.do), and then goes on to create a new user account under the RUN link in the MCA website.</p> <p>Online service for reservation of name (RUN or "Reserve Unique Name") was introduced through the web service available on mca.gov.in. This service has replaced the Form INC-1 for name approval. The following are the fields to be entered in Web-based Application :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Entity Type: It is required to select the applicable option, i.e. New Company (Others) / Part I Company, Producer Company, Unlimited Company, Private (OPC), IFSC Company, Section 8 Company, Nidhi Company. - Corporate Identification Number (CIN): Only in case an Existing Company is applying for the Change in Name, it is required to enter its CIN. - Proposed Name: A Proposed Name option required to be entered here (the form allows to provide 2 names in the form). After entering a Name, MCA has provided Auto Check Facility to check the availability of the Name, accordingly the Applicant and enter the new Optional name, in case the Entity already registered with such proposed name and again has to make Auto Check. When the MCA System provides a Green Remark, Applicant can submit the Applicant with such name option for further Approval. - Comments: In this field, Applicant can provide the details related to the Proposed Company and activities including the Prior Approvals and TradeMark Registration Details, Resolution (for Existing Company / Foreign Subsidiary Registration). <p>All applicable documents must be scanned in a single file to be attached to the Web-based Application. After providing the details in the fields and requisite attachments, Applicant can submit the Form Online with the prescribed fees. Name will be reserved only for 20 Days within which the Applicant and/or Promoters are required to file form with MCA-Concerned ROC with requisite documents as per the Incorporation Rules 2014 as per the Companies Act 2013.</p> <p>As of April 2016 companies can also complete the name reservation through the SPICe form. However, in practice, companies reserve the company name before completing the application for incorporation, as that way company name is confirmed and there is no ambiguity and no chance of SPICe form being rejected due to name rejection.</p>	1-3 days	INR 1,000

<p>⇒ 3</p>	<p>Prepare and notarize affidavit by each founder and proposed director <i>Agency : Notary</i> Each founder and proposed director has to submit an affidavit confirming that he/she is not convicted of any offence in connection with the promotion, formation or management of any company, or has not been found guilty of any fraud or misfeasance or of any breach of duty to any company during the preceding five years and that all the documents filed with the Registrar for registration of the company contain information that is correct and complete and true to the best of his knowledge and belief. A separate notarized affidavit is required for each person.</p> <p>As per the Companies Act Amendment 2017 (July 27, 2017), Section 7, the requirement for affidavit to be submitted as part of incorporation documents has been replaced with a requirement of declaration by the directors. However, in practice, companies continue submitting notarized affidavits.</p>	<p>1 day, simultaneous</p>	<p>INR 10 (stamp paper) + INR 35 (notarizing) for each affidavit</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Pay stamp duties, file the SPICE form and obtain the certificate of incorporation, DIN, PAN and TAN <i>Agency : Registrar of Companies, Ministry of Corporate Affairs (Federal)</i> Pursuant to Section 7 (1) of the Companies Act, 2013 and pursuant to Rule 10, 12, 14 and 15 of Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014, the following forms are required to be electronically filed on the website of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs for incorporation purposes.</p> <p>It is mandatory for private limited companies to complete the incorporation process using the SPICE Form (Form INC -32). Applications for director identification number (DIN), Permanent Account Number (PAN) and a Tax deduction and Collection Account Number (TAN) have been integrated completely into the SPICE form. The particulars of maximum three directors can be mentioned in SPICE form and DIN may be allotted to maximum three proposed directors through this. If new directors are proposed for an existing company, then a separate DIN application can be submitted.</p> <p>SPICE eMoA (INC-33) and SPICE eAoA (INC-34) have to be uploaded as 'Linked Forms' to SPICE (INC-32). The documents submitted for SPICE need to be digitally signed by all directors. A digital signature of a witness is also required for eMoA and eAoA.</p> <p>A consolidated challan gets generated at the time of filing SPICE(INC-32) which shall contain applicable fee towards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Form Fee (ii) MoA (iii) AoA (iv) PAN (v) TAN <p>Two re-submissions are permitted for the SPICE form. On approval of SPICE forms, the Certificate of Incorporation (Col) is issued with PAN and TAN as allotted by the Income Tax Department. An electronic mail with Certificate of Incorporation(Col) as an attachment along with PAN and TAN is also sent to the user. Finance Act, 2018 amended section 139A of the Income-tax Act, 1961 and removed the requirement of issuing PAN in the form of a laminated card.</p> <p>Companies with authorized share capital below INR 1,500,000 are not required to pay filing fees for eMoA and eAoA.</p>	<p>4 days</p>	<p>Fee schedule for a company with paid-up share capital below INR 1,500,000:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Electronic filing of the Memorandum of Association (eMOA): none - Electronic filing fee for filing the Articles of association (eAOA): none - Electronic filing fee for Form INC-32 SPICE: none - Stamp duty: INR 100 - Stamp duty for Articles of Association: INR 3,000 (INR 500 for every 500,000 or part thereof) - Stamp duty for Memorandum of Association: INR 200 - PAN application: INR 110 (including 18% GST) - TAN application: INR 65 (including 18% GST)
<p>⇒ 5</p>	<p>Make a company stamp <i>Agency : Authorized vendor (Private)</i> As per the amendment to the Companies Act 2013, making a company seal is no longer a legal requirement. However, making a company rubber stamp is still commonly used in practice. The stamp is normally required to be affixed by a director upon signing on behalf of the company in order to file several applications relevant to business startup. This includes but is not limited to opening a bank account, application for registration with the Employee State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) and application for a company Permanent Account Numbers (PAN).</p>	<p>1 day, simultaneous</p>	<p>INR 350-500</p>

6	<p>Open a bank account</p> <p>Agency : Bank</p> <p>The bank account details must be provided by the company in various post-registration applications, such as registrations with GST.</p> <p>After incorporation, company can immediately apply for bank account opening using electronically provided Col. Banks have introduced new KYC requirements, and request for multiple ID proofs as well as address proofs, which results in a longer than usual processing time for providing with bank account number.</p> <p>The common documents required for account opening include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate of Incorporation (Col) • MoA & AoA • Communication address proof of company • Registered address proof of company (if different from communication address) • Board Resolution • ID Proof of authorized signatory • PAN card of company (now provided in Col) 	3 days	no charge
7	<p>Register with Office of Inspector, Mumbai Shops and Establishment Act</p> <p>Agency : Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai</p> <p>According to Section 7 of the Bombay Shops and Establishments Act, 1948, the establishment must be registered as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Under Section 7(4), the employer must register the establishment in the prescribed manner within 30 days of the date on which the establishment commences its work. - Under Section 7(1), the establishment must submit to the local shop inspector Form A and the prescribed fees for registering the establishment. Supporting documents must be attached, including a certified true copy of the company's PAN Card, TAN Allotment Letter, Certificate of Incorporation, Memorandum and Articles of Association, a list of company directors, their particulars and copies of their PAN Cards. - Under Section 7(2), after the statement in Form A and the prescribed fees are received and the correctness of the statement is satisfactorily audited, the certificate for the registration of the establishment is issued in Form D, according to the provisions of Rule 6 of the Maharashtra Shops and Establishments Rules of 1961. <p>Since the amendments in the Maharashtra Shops & Establishment (Amendment) Rules, 2010, the Schedule for fees for registration & renewal of registration (as per Rule 5) is as follows:</p> <p>0 employees: INR 120 1 to 5 employees: INR 360 6 to 10 employees: INR 720 11 to 20 employees: INR 1,200 21 to 50 employees: INR 2,400 51 to 100 employees: INR 4,200 101 or more: INR 5,400.</p> <p>In addition, an annual fee (three times the registration and renewal fees) is charged as trade refuse charges (TRC), under the Mumbai Municipal Corporation Act, 1888.</p>	7 days, simultaneous	INR 1,200 (registration fee) + 3 times registration fee for Trade Refuse Charges (INR 3,600)

Agency: Department of Goods and Services Tax, Government of Maharashtra
 GST Registration of a business with the tax authorities implies obtaining a unique, 15-digit Goods and Service Tax Identification Number (GSTIN) from the GST authorities so that all the operations of and the data relating to the business can be collected and correlated. Registration under the GST Act is mandatory if your aggregate annual PAN-based turnover exceeds INR 20,00,000 (Rupees Twenty Lakhs). However, in practice, for any operating business, a GST registration is done immediately after incorporation.

To apply for a new registration, the following documents are required

- PAN card/details of business
- Valid and accessible e-mail ID and Mobile Number
- Documentary proof of constitution of business
- Documentary proof of promoters/partners - Documentary proof of principal place of business
- Details of Authorised Signatories including photographs and proof of appointment - Details of Primary Authorised Signatory
- Business bank account details
- Valid Class II or Class III DSC of authorised signatory in case of companies and LLPs; valid Class II or Class III DSC or Aadhaar (for E-Sign option).

A maximum of 10 Promoters/Partners/Directors can be added in the form. Passport photographs need to be uploaded of all the Promoters/Partners/Directors whose details you are adding in the application form. Further, each passport photograph must be in JPEG format and not more than 100 KB.

The first step to the registration process is the application and verification of PAN number, and the subsequent issue of a Temporary Registration Number (TRN).

The applicant then needs to submit an application in Part B of FORM GST REG-01, duly signed, along with documents specified.

The application is forwarded to the proper officer who examines it and the accompanying documents and if found to be in order, approve the grant of registration to the applicant within three working days from the date of submission of application.

The certificate of registration in FORM GST REG-06 showing the principal place of business and additional place(s) of business is then made available to the applicant on the Common Portal and a GSTIN is assigned in the following format:

- two characters for the State code;
- ten characters for the PAN or the Tax Deduction and Collection Account Number;
- two characters for the entity code; and
- one checksum character.

Agency : Shram Suvidha Portal of Ministry of Labour and Employment
 The Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) is a statutory organization under the Ministry of Labor and Employment. The Employees Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 applies to an establishment, employing 20 or more persons and engaged in any of the 183 Industries and Classes of business establishments, throughout India excluding the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Furthermore, new companies are required to register with the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC).

On April 30, 2017, an online registration was introduced the Shram Suvidha Portal combining the EPFO and ESIC registrations into one. However, it was not a preferred method for the majority since paper copies had still to be filed after the online registration. In April 1, 2018, the electronic registration process was further enhanced and it became the only option to register for ESIC and EPFO. EPFO & ESIC registration is now done on the same Shram Suvidha portal (<https://registration.shramsuvidha.gov.in>) and in one application. However, the website was reported to be quite slow and with numerous glitches during the registration process – fields not accepting information, the screen timing out, etc. As a result, although registration is done electronically, it can take a long time in practice.

Agency : Sales Tax Department, Government of Maharashtra
 Professional Tax in Maharashtra is levied under Maharashtra State Tax on Professions, Trades, Callings and Employments Act, 1975. It is levied on Company, Firm, Proprietary Concern, Hindu Undivided Family (HUF), Society, Club, Association of Persons, Corporation or any other corporate body in Maharashtra.

Professional Tax in Maharashtra for Organisations: An employer organization is required to get registered under the Profession Tax Act and obtain a Registration Certificate under which the payment in respect of taxes deducted from employees' salaries can be made. Also as a firm, the organization is required to obtain Enrollment Certificate and pay Profession tax on its behalf. Delays in obtaining Enrollment or Registration Certificate are penalized at the rate of Rs. 2/- (Rupees Two) per Day. In case a false information regarding enrollment is provided, then the Penalty is 3 times of tax amount. The interest for non-payment / delayed payment of profession tax is 1.25% per month and the Maharashtra state authority can also impose a penalty of 10% of the amount of tax not paid/short paid/delayed.

There are 2 types of Profession Tax payers:

- a) Profession Tax Enrollment Certificate (PTEC) : Any person engaged in Profession, Trade and Callings and falling under one or the other of the classes mentioned in the second column of Schedule I shall obtained PTEC
- b) Profession Tax Registration Certificate (PTRC) : Every employer who has employed even a single employee whose salary is above the prescribed limit for deducting Profession Tax shall obtain PTRC.

All new companies must be first obtain a Profession Tax Registration Certificate. And then proceed to enroll all employees for a Profession Tax Enrollment Certificate for any of the employees who have never been employed (for employees who have been previously enrolled, there is no need to re-enroll).

نزدیک جغرافیایی میزان مرز مشترک و فاصله دو کشور در صورت عدم داشتن مرز مشترک



Iran to India distance, location, road map and direction

Iran is located in **Asia** at the longitude of 51.43 and latitude of 35.67. India is located in **Asia** at the longitude of 77.2 and latitude of 28.58 .

Distance between Iran and India

The total straight line distance between Iran and India is **2543 KM** (kilometers) and 354 meters. The miles based distance from Iran to India is **1580.4** miles. This is a straight line distance and so most of the time the actual travel distance between Iran and India may be higher or vary due to curvature of the road .

Iran To India travel time

Iran is located around 2543 KM away from India so if you travel at the consistent speed of 50 KM per hour you can reach India in 50.87 hours. Your India travel time may vary due to your bus speed, train speed or depending upon the vehicle you use.

Iran To India road map

India is located nearly **west** side to Iran. The given west direction from Iran is only approximate. The given google map shows the direction in which the blue color line indicates road connectivity to India . In the travel map towards India you may find en route hotels, tourist spots, picnic spots, petrol pumps and various religious places. The given google map is not comfortable to view all the places as per your expectation then to view street maps, local places see our detailed map here.

Iran To India driving direction

The following driving direction guides you to reach India from Iran. Our straight line distance may vary from google distance.

Travel Distance from Iran

The onward journey distance may vary from downward distance due to one way traffic road. This website gives the travel information and distance for all the cities in the globe. For example if you have any queries like what is the distance between Iran and India ? and How far is Iran from India?. Driving distance between Iran and India. Iran to India distance by road. Distance between Iran and India is 2543 KM / 1580.4 miles.

<http://distancebetween2.com/iran/india>

Indian banking sector

The Indian banking system consists of 12 public sector banks, 22 private sector banks, 46 foreign banks, 56 regional rural banks, 1485 urban cooperative banks and 96,000 rural cooperative banks in addition to cooperative credit institutions. As of September 2021, the total number of ATMs in India reached 213,145 out of which 47.5% are in rural and semi urban areas.

Total assets across the banking sector (including public and private sector banks) increased to US\$ 2.48 trillion in FY21.

In FY21, total assets in the public and private banking sectors were US\$ 1,602.65 billion and US\$ 878.56 billion, respectively.

interest rates range from **2.85 percent to 5.50 percent** at the bank. revises fixed deposit interest rates on certain tenors for amounts below Rs 2 crore, effective from June 23, 2022. The bank offers interest rates between 2.85 percent and 5.50 percent.

Total reserves (includes gold, current US\$) - India

638,484,779.93

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/FI.RES.TOTL.CD?locations=IN>

Stock market

1. BSE (Bombay Stock Exchange)
2. NSE (National Stock Exchange)

these two are primarily the two major stock exchanges in India.

3. Calcutta Stock Exchange Ltd.
4. Indian Commodity Exchange Limited
5. Metropolitan Stock Exchange of India Ltd.
6. Multi Commodity Exchange of India Ltd.
7. National Commodity & Derivatives Exchange Ltd.

Weather and Climate

India is the seventh largest country in the world by size and it boasts an incredibly diverse collection of landscapes which are bordered along the eastern, western and southern coast by the Bay of Bengal, the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean respectively. In the north, the country shares its borders with Bangladesh, China, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar and Pakistan, and just off the southern coast – alongside a number of islands – lies Sri Lanka. The country is largely divided up into a number of main regions geographically. These include the great mountains in the north; the Thar desert to the northwest; the Indo-Gangetic plain characterised by three important rivers (the Ganges, the Indus and the Brahmaputra); the peninsular plateau divided by central highlands and scattered with shallow valleys and rounded hills; and the coastal plains home to a great number of smaller rivers. There are also two main groupings of islands, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the Bay of Bengal, and the Lakshadweep Islands in the Arabian Sea.

In terms of climate, India can be divided into a number of regions. For the most part, the country has a tropical climate which throughout most of the interior is a mixture of wet and dry tropical weather. In northern parts there is a humid tropical climate and along the western coast lies wet tropical areas. Stretching in a strip up the centre of the country is a semi-arid climate, which also stretches across the north-west. Although stereotypical images may bring to mind the heat of India, the country can also experience extreme cold. This takes place largely in the northern mountainous regions which include the cold, arid and windswept Himalayas.

There are quite strong variations in India's four seasons. The summer months can get extremely hot, stretching between March and June with maximum temperatures in certain parts reaching at least 40°C. This is the pre-monsoon season (though thunderstorms are experienced in the north-eastern and eastern parts of Bihar, Assam and West Bengal while in the plains of north-west India, hot and dry winds are common). July to September brings the monsoon rains which supply around three-quarters of the country's yearly rainfall. Autumn stretches from October to December and marks the transition to winter. Temperatures slowly start to decrease and there is also a reduction in the humidity experienced across the country. Rainfall is still common in some parts. Winter can begin as early as December, however for most areas January and February see the onset of this cold season which brings average temperatures of between 10°C and 15°C in the northwest regions and between 20°C and 25°C in the southeast region of mainland India. The heaviest snowfall in the mountainous regions occurs between these months and the temperatures can drop well below zero.

Our [wildlife conservation project in India](#) is based in Agra and the Uttar Pradesh state. Here, the weather is consistently mild all year around but has particularly hot temperatures from March to November. These summer months see temperatures rise to the mid 40°Cs between April and June and remain in the mid-to-high 30°Cs till November. The rainy months – and peak humidity times – are July, August and September, with the remainder of the year staying relatively dry. Across the state of Uttar Pradesh the summers can be extremely hot while October to March brings more pleasantly cool weather.

<https://www.workingabroad.com/travel/india-climate-and-geography/#:~:text=In%20terms%20of%20climate%2C%20India,coast%20lies%20wet%20tropical%20areas>.

Natural resources

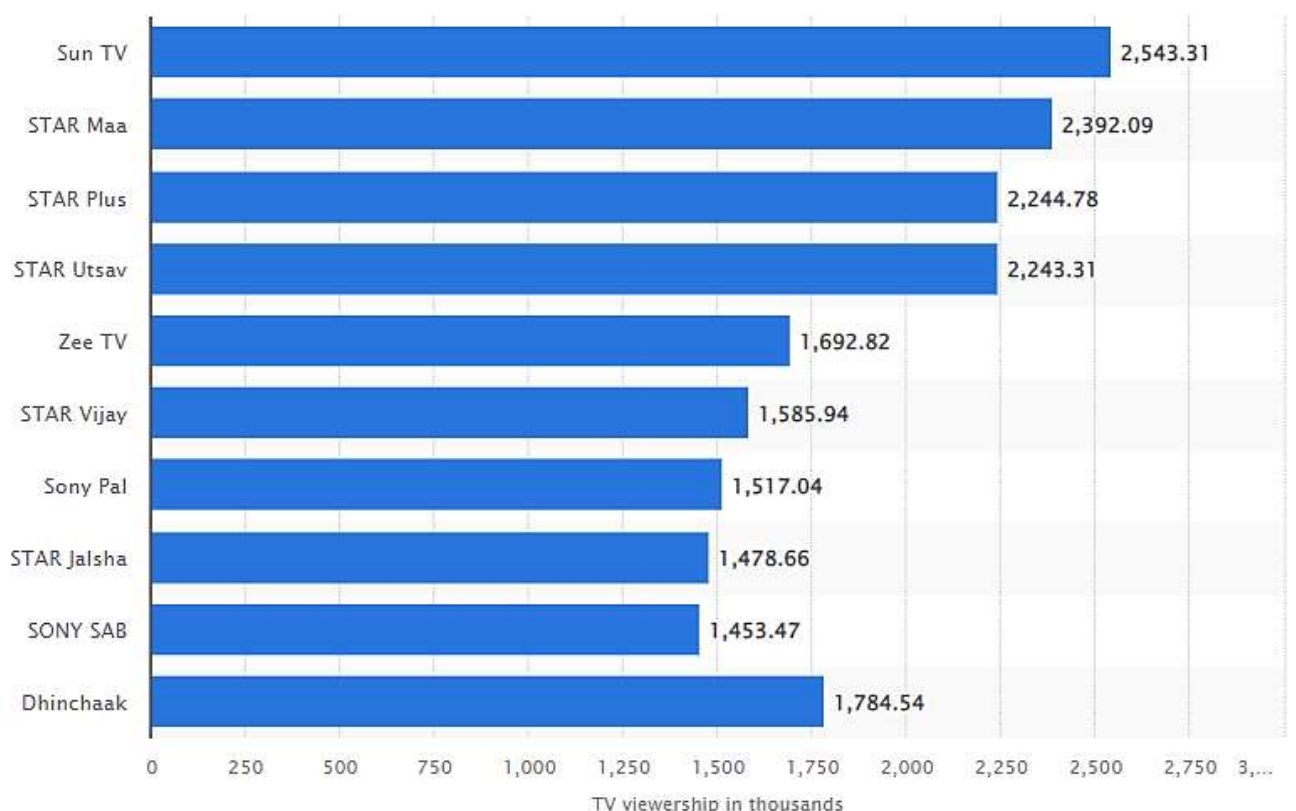
India is rich in natural resources. The country produces as many as **87 minerals** including fuel, metallic, non-metallic, and atomic minerals. Among the minerals, reserves of coal, iron ore and bauxite are vast and will last decades.

India has an abundance of **mineral deposits**. The country is the second-largest producer of steel; the third-largest producer of coal; the fourth-largest producer of iron and has the fifth-largest bauxite reserves in the world. Overall, India produces over ninety different types of minerals.

Most Popular TV Stations

Leading television channels across India in week 7 of 2022, by weekly viewership

<https://www.statista.com/statistics/1003805/india-top-television-channels-by-impressions/>



INDIAN Travel Advisory

Travel Advisory
April 18, 2022

Travel Advisory Levels

- 1 Exercise normal precautions
- 2 Exercise increased caution
- 3 Reconsider travel
- 4 Do not travel

India - Level 2: Exercise Increased Caution

OUTC

Exercise increased caution in India due to **crime** and **terrorism**.

Do not travel to:

- The union territory of Jammu and Kashmir (except the eastern Ladakh region and its capital, Leh) due to **terrorism** and **civil unrest**.
- Within 10 km of the India-Pakistan border due to the **potential for armed conflict**.

Country Summary: Indian authorities report rape is one of the fastest growing crimes in India. Violent crime, such as sexual assault, has occurred at tourist sites and in other locations.

Terrorists may attack with little or no warning, targeting tourist locations, transportation hubs, markets/shopping malls, and government facilities.

The U.S. government has limited ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in rural areas from eastern Maharashtra and northern Telangana through western West Bengal as U.S. government employees must obtain special authorization to travel to these areas.

Read the [country information page](#) for additional information on travel to India.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has determined India has a low level of COVID-19. Visit the CDC page for the latest [Travel Health Information](#) related to your travel.

If you decide to travel to India:

- Read the [Department of State's COVID-19 page](#) before planning any international travel, and read the [U.S. Embassy's web page](#) for country-specific COVID-19 information.
- Do not travel alone, particularly if you are a woman. Visit our website for [Women Travelers](#).
- Review your personal security plans and remain alert to your surroundings.
- Enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive Alerts and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Follow the Department of State on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).
- Review the [Country Security Report](#) for India.
- Prepare a contingency plan for emergency situations. Review the [Traveler's Checklist](#).

Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir – Level 4: Do Not Travel

Terrorist attacks and violent civil unrest are possible in the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir. Avoid all travel to this state (with the exception of visits to the eastern Ladakh region and its capital, Leh). Sporadic violence occurs particularly along the Line of Control (LOC) separating India and Pakistan, and in tourist destinations in the Kashmir Valley: Srinagar, Gulmarg, and Pahalgam. The Indian government prohibits foreign tourists from visiting certain areas along the LOC.

Visit our website for [Travel to High-Risk Areas](#).

India-Pakistan Border – Level 4: Do Not Travel

India and Pakistan maintain a strong military presence on both sides of the border. The only official India-Pakistan border crossing point for persons who are not citizens of India or Pakistan is in the state of Punjab between Attari, India, and Wagah, Pakistan. The border crossing is usually open but confirm the current status of the border crossing prior to commencing travel. A Pakistani visa is required to enter Pakistan. Only U.S. citizens residing in India may apply for a Pakistani visa in India. Otherwise apply for a Pakistani visa in your country of residence before traveling to India.

Visit our website for [Travel to High-Risk Areas](#).

Northeastern States – Level 4: Do Not Travel

Incidents of violence by ethnic insurgent groups, including bombings of buses, trains, rail lines, and markets, occur occasionally in the northeast.

U.S. government employees at the U.S. Embassy and Consulates in India are prohibited from traveling to the states of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Manipur without special authorization from the U.S. Consulate General in Kolkata.

Visit our website for [Travel to High-Risk Areas](#).

Central and East India – Level 4: Do Not Travel

Maoist extremist groups, or “Naxalites,” are active in a large swath of India from eastern Maharashtra and northern Telangana through western West Bengal, particularly in rural parts of Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand and on the borders of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, and Odisha. The Naxalites have conducted frequent terrorist attacks on local police, paramilitary forces, and government officials.

Due to the fluid nature of the threat, all U.S. government travelers to states with Naxalite activity must receive special authorization from the U.S. consulate responsible for the area to be visited. U.S. officials traveling only to the capital cities in these states do not need prior authorization.

Visit our website for [Travel to High-Risk Areas](#).

Last Update: Reissued with updates to health information.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories/india-travel-advisory.html>

Trade Agreements

Describes trade agreements this country is a party to. Includes resources where U.S. companies can get information on how to take advantage of these agreements.

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India actively engages in regional and bilateral trade negotiations to diversify and expand its export markets while ensuring access to the raw materials, intermediates, and capital goods needed to stimulate value-added domestic manufacturing.

Presently, India shares preferential market access and economic cooperation through trade agreements with over 50 countries. The following table lists the major bilateral and regional agreements that India has signed and implemented:

S.No.	Acronym	Grouping	Member Countries		FTA/PTA
			Number	Names	
1	APTA	Asia Pacific Trade Agreement	6	Bangladesh, China, India, Lao PDR, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka.	PTA
2	India ASEAN TIG	India ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement	11	Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, and India.	FTA
3	GSTP	Global System of Trade Preferences	42	Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Republic of	PTA

S.No.	Acronym	Grouping	Member Countries		FTA/PTA
				Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tanzania, Venezuela, Vietnam, Zimbabwe.	
4	IBSA	India Brazil and South Africa	3	India, Brazil, and South Africa.	Under negotiation
5	SAFTA	South Asia Free Trade Agreement	7	India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Bhutan, and the Maldives	FTA
6	ISLFTA	Indo Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement	2	Sri Lanka, India	FTA

S.No.	Acronym	Grouping	Member Countries		FTA/PTA
7	IMCECA	Indo Malaysia Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement	2	Malaysia, India	FTA
8	ISCECA	India Singapore Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement	2	Singapore, India	FTA
9	JICEPA	Japan India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreements	2	Japan, India	FTA
10	IKCEPA	India Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreements	2	South Korea, India	FTA

India and United States

There is no trade agreement between India and the United States. In April 2018, the United States launched an eligibility review of India's compliance with the General System of Preferences (GSP) market access criteria, and in March 2019 decided that India no longer met the criteria and revoked India's GSP status. Termination of GSP benefits removed special duty treatment for \$5.6 billion of Indian exports to the United States, affecting India's export-oriented sectors such as pharmaceuticals, textiles, agricultural products, and automotive parts. The United States and India continues to hold discussions on trade issues.

<https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/india-trade-agreements>

Standards for Trade

Describes standards, identifies the national standards, accreditation bodies, and lists the national testing organization(s) and conformity assessment bodies.

Last published date: 2021-10-23

Overview

India historically made efforts to align its national standards with international norms, and most Indian standards are harmonized with International Standards Organization (ISO) standards. Nevertheless, there is current pressure within India to devise Indian Standards, which will create barriers to trade and pose challenges to U.S. exporters in certain sectors. India frequently fails to notify the WTO of new standards, and to allow time for discussion with its trading partners prior to implementation.

Because of pressure from consumer rights groups, NGOs, and environmental activists, there is a growing emphasis on product standards in India in various industry sectors. The proactive role of Department of Consumer Affairs and Bureau of Indian standards (BIS) under the Mission 'One Nation One Standard' have also contributed to an increased awareness and emphasis on product standards in India.

Standards

In India, voluntary standards are exclusively developed by BIS. BIS was originally established under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act of 1986 and is responsible for the development and formulation of standards. In March 2016, the government of India passed a revised bill to replace the 30-year-old BIS Act. The bill established BIS as a national body and empowered the central government to authorize any other agency having necessary accreditation for conformity assessment against Indian standards.

BIS is comprised of representatives of industry, consumer organizations, scientific and research bodies, professional organizations, technical institutions, Indian government ministries, and members of parliament. BIS is also involved with product certification, quality system certifications and testing, and consumer affairs.

The Indian Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MOCI) has designated BIS as the National WTO-TBT Enquiry Point in accordance with its obligations to the agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade of the WTO. According to the agreement, BIS, in tandem with MOCI, issues notifications on proposed technical regulations and certification systems in India to the WTO. BIS's Technical Information Services Center responds to domestic and foreign requests for information about Indian standards, technical regulations, and conformity assessment rules. U.S. companies that wish to make comments on any notifications can obtain copies of the text from BIS from the WTO-TBT Enquiry Point, Technical Information Services Center in BIS. BIS communicates comments to the Ministry of Commerce.

BIS is the only organization in India authorized to operate quality certification plans under an Act of Parliament. It serves as the official member and sets policy for Indian participation in the ISO and International Electro Technical Commission (IEC).

In addition, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) was established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, as a statutory body for implementing and regulating food standards.

NIST Notify U.S. Service

Members of the World Trade Organization (WTO) are required under the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT Agreement) to notify to the WTO of proposed technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures that could affect trade. [Notify U.S.](#) is a free, web-based e-mail registration service that captures and makes available for review and comment key information on draft regulations and conformity assessment procedures. Users receive customized e-mail alerts when new notifications are added by selected countries and industry sectors of interest and can request full texts of regulations. This service and its associated website are managed and operated by the USA WTO TBT Inquiry Point housed within the National Institute of Standards and Technology, part of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Testing, inspection, and certification

A list of testing organizations providing conformity testing against relevant Indian standards is available from the BIS website.

In association with technical GOI agencies and NGOs, BIS periodically inspects products under mandatory certification. A provision exists for sub-contracting certification surveillance activities to relevant competent agencies in specific areas. Certain types of steel, rubber, and electronic products presently fall under such surveillance agreements.

BIS's product standards are essentially voluntary in nature, but after the removal of quantitative restrictions (QRs) on imports by India in 2000, the GOI, to provide protection to domestic producers in certain sectors, promulgated regulations dictating that imports of certain products are subject to mandatory compliance with specified Indian quality standards. For compliance, all exporters/manufacturers of such products are required to register with and obtain certification from the Bureau of Indian Standards before exporting such goods to India.

According to BIS guidelines, products under compulsory certification fall into three schemes: The ISI Mark Scheme, comprised of 374 items; the Grant of Certificate of Conformity Scheme, comprised of two items; and the Registration Scheme, comprised of 77 items. More information is available through the BIS website under the Products Under Compulsory Certification section.

These products generally must be tested and certified by BIS in India. BIS has a system for foreign companies to receive automatic certification for products not manufactured in India. The system is based on a self-certification, under which a

foreign manufacturer is permitted to apply the standards mark on the product after ascertaining its conformity to the respective Indian Standard. At the foreign manufacturer's expense, BIS inspectors travel to the manufacturer's country to inspect their production facility to pre-certify the company and its production system, and then authorize subsequent monitoring and compliance by an independent inspector to ensure that the company maintains the specified standards. These inspections are currently on hiatus due to pandemic travel restrictions. Please contact [Naveen Rai](#) if you are facing challenges to exporting due to the lack of BIS certification for your products. Information on the application procedure for BIS Product Certification Plan for foreign companies is available through the BIS website.

Exporters/ manufacturers of products under Foreign Manufacturers Certification Scheme (FMCS) are required to maintain presence in India. This requirement does not apply if the foreign manufacturer nominates an authorized India representative (AIR), who agrees to be responsible for compliance with the provisions of BIS on behalf of the manufacturer, as per an agreement signed between the manufacturer and BIS. Under separate arrangements some products are placed under special certification plans of lot or batch inspections carried out by BIS inspecting officers. As an example, most gas cylinders, deep well hand pumps, and valves are certified through such plans.

The Food Safety and Standard Authority of India issues food import clearance certificates for all food articles.

The National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL), established in 1985, is a constituent Board of Quality Council of India. NABL provides accreditation for testing and calibration laboratories to government, industry associations, and industry. To date, it has accredited more than 6100 testing and calibration laboratories.

For international mutual acceptance of test results to be compliant with the WTO/Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) regulations, NABL is a member of international organizations such as International Laboratory Accreditation Co-operation (ILAC) and the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Co-operation (APLAC). NABL is a signatory to ILAC as well as APLAC Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRA), based on mutual evaluation and acceptance of other MRA Partner laboratory accreditation systems.

Indian manufacturing companies are investing in standards accreditation. The number of plants in India with ISO 9000 and ISO 14000 accreditation increased from a negligible figure in the early nineties to many thousands today.

Publication of Technical Regulations

All BIS Act, Rules, Regulations and Indian Standards information is now available on the Bureau of Indian Standards website.

In order to meet its commitment under the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement, in 2007, the government of India implemented the "Intellectual Property Rights (Imported Goods) Enforcement Rules", known as the

Customs Rules on IPR. The purpose of these rules is to prevent counterfeiting and infringing goods from being imported into India. The Customs Rules on IPR provide rights holders the opportunity to record their IPR (e.g., trademarks, designs, copyrights, patents and geographical indications) online through the Indian Customs IPR Recordation Portal. The portal helps Customs with enforcement actions related to trade in counterfeit or infringing goods. The rules were amended in 2018 to remove rights holders' ability to record their patent-related rights and notify the customs authorities of the goods allegedly infringing their patent rights.

<https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/india-standards-trade>