

Geography

India – Location, Relief and Drainage

- Amaravati is the new capital of Andhra Pradesh. According to Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, Hyderabad will be the capital for both the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana till 2024 (For 10 years from the act passed).
- Aravalli range is the oldest fold mountain range in India.
- Himalaya is the home of several high peaks.
- However, it holds the record of having the maximum number of highest peaks among any mountain range in the world.
- Out of 14 highest peaks in this world, Himalayas holds 9.
- The major passes in the Himalaya are Karakoram pass (Jammu and Kashmir), Zojila pass, Shipkila pass (Himachal Pradesh), Bomdila pass (Arunachal Pradesh), Nathula pass and Jhelepla pass (Sikkim).
- The Khyber pass which connects Pakistan and Afganisthan, and Bolan pass in Pakistan are the important passes of the Indian subcontinent.

Climate and Natural Vegetation of India:

- Equable climate is also called as the British climate, Which is neither too hot nor too cold.
- Weather refers to the state of atmosphere of a place at a given point of time.
- Climate is the accumulation of daily and seasonal weather events of a given location over a period of 30-35 years.
- Mawsynram, the place which receives highest rainfall (1141 cm) in the world. It is located in Meghalaya.
- Project Tiger was launched in April 1973 with the aim to conserve tiger population in specifically constituted "Tiger Reserves" in India.

India - Agriculture:

- Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) This has been implemented to get more production by using water saving and conservation technologies.
- **How is livestock census conducted in Tamil Nadu?** State Government is conducting Livestock Census with the help of Department of Animal Husbandry at state level and Regional Joint Director at District level under the guidelines of Government of India Ministry of Agriculture and farmers welfare, Department of Animal Husbandry Dairying and Fisheries.
- Livestock Census: First Livestock Census in India was conducted with the title of Dairy Cattle Census in 1919.

India - Resources and Industries:

- **The organisations associated with minerals in India are**
 - The Geological Survey of India Headquarter is at Calcutta
 - Indian Bureau of Mines Headquarter at Nagpur
 - Non-Ferrous Material Technology Development Centre NFTDC, Hyderabad.
- The Ministry of Mines is responsible for the administration of all mines and minerals (Development and Regulation Act, 1957).

- SAIL (Steel Authority of India Limited): The Ministry of Steel is responsible for planning and development of iron and steel industry in India.
- MOIL- Manganese Ore India Limited state-owned manganese-ore mining company headquartered in Nagpur. With a market share of 50%. It was the largest producer of manganese ore in India.
- Hindustan Copper Ltd is a Government-owned-corporation in the central public Enterprise under the Ministry of mines, India.
- Bauxite is an oxide of aluminium; the name has been derived after the French word Le Baux.
- National Aluminium Company Limited, abbreviated as NALCO, (incorporated 1981) has units in Odisha at places like Angul and Damanjodi. It was incorporated as a public sector enterprise of the Ministry of Mines, Government of India in 1981.
- Coal India Limited (CIL) is an Indian state-controlled coal mining company headquartered in Kolkata, West Bengal.
- The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MOP&NG) is a ministry of the Government of India. It is responsible for the exploration, production, refining, distribution, marketing, import, export, and conservation of petroleum, natural gas, petroleum products, and liquefied natural gas in India.
- GAIL (formerly known as Gas Authority of India Limited) is the largest state-owned natural gas processing and distribution company in India. It is headquartered in New Delhi.
- Compressed natural gas (CNG) (methane stored at high pressure) is a fuel which can be used in place of gasoline, diesel fuel and propane/LPG. In comparison to other fuels, natural gas poses less of a threat in the event of a spill, because it is lighter than air and disperses quickly when released. Biomethane – cleaned-up biogas from anaerobic digestion or landfills – can be used. Natural gas run vehicles are increasingly used in Delhi, Ahmedabad, Mumbai, Pune, Kolkata Lucknow, Kanpur, Varanasi, etc.
- The Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) is an Indian public sector undertaking based in Mumbai, Maharashtra. It is wholly owned by the Government of India and is responsible for the generation of nuclear power for electricity.
- Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited is a Government of India Enterprise. Its head quarter is located at New Delhi.
- Tamil nadu has the largest installation of wind turbines in the country in the Aralvoimozhi area near Kanniyakumari is the largest concentration of wind farm capacity at a single location in the world.
- The National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE), Chennai was established in Tamil Nadu in 1998 as an autonomous institution under the administrative control of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. NIWE main activities include resource assessment testing and certification.
- The first cotton textile mill was established at Fort Gloster near Kolkata in 1818.
- Ginning is the process of separating cotton seed from cotton.
- National jute board is headquartered at Kolkata.
- CSTRI is the only research institute in the country dedicated to the Research & Developmental activities related to silk technology. CSTRI was established in the year 1983 by the Central Silk Board, Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India having headquarters at Bengaluru.
- The Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms was set up as an attached non-participating office on 20th November, 1975 under the Ministry of Commerce. At present it is functioning under the Ministry of Textiles, headquarters at Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi.
- The first paper mill of India was started in 1812 at Serampore in West Bengal.

- National Newsprint and Paper Mills (NEPA) is at Neapanagar in Burhanpur District of Madhya Pradesh.
- The first attempt to produce an iron and steel unit was set up at Porto Novo in Tamil nadu in 1830.
- Chennai is nicknamed as the “Detroit of Asia” due to the presence of major automobile manufacturing units and allied industries around the city.
- The first attempt to produce iron and steel unit was set up at Porto Novo in Tamil nadu in 1830.
- Make in India program was launched in 2014 to put India on the world map as a major hub for global design and manufacturing.

India - Population, Transport, Communication & Trade:

- In India the first census was carried out in the year 1872. But the first complete and synchronous census was conducted in 1881. And the 2011 census represents the fifteenth census of India.
- Shershah suri built the shahi (Royal) road to strengthen and consolidate his empire from the Indus valley to the Sonar valley in Bengal. This road from Kolkata to Peshawar was renamed as Grand Trunk(GT) road during the British period. At present, it extends from Amristar to Kolkata.
- National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) was established in 1995. It is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Surface Transport.
- The first sub-urban railway was started in 1925 in Mumbai.
- Gatiman Express is the fastest operational train in India. This train connects New Delhi and Agra and touches 160 km/h.
- The state of Meghalaya has no railway network.

Physical Geography of Tamil Nadu:

- As per, the States Reorganisation Act, 1956, state boundaries were reorganised on some linguistic basis.
- All districts of Tamil Nadu except the Chennai, The Nilgiris and Kanyakumari were bifurcated at different points of time.
- Pamban, Hare, Krusadai, Nallathanni Theevu, Pullivasal, Srirangam, Upputanni, Island Grounds, Kattupalli Island, Quibble Island and Vivekananda Rock Memorial are some major islands of Tamil Nadu.
- Chinnakallar near Valparai is the 3rd wettest place in India and the wettest place in Tamil Nadu.
- Pichavaram mangrove forest is located near Chidambaram, Cuddalore district. This is the second largest mangrove forest in the world covering about 1,100 hectares (11 sq.km) of area. It is separated from the Bay of Bengal by a sandbar. It consists of species like Avicennia and Rhizophora.
- **Role of Mangroves in Coastal Zone Management:** Mangroves helps in the prevention of coastal erosion from waves and storms. It also protects coral reefs and sea grass meadows from being smothered in sediments.

Human Geography of Tamil Nadu:

- The Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute (TRRI) is an Indian research institute working in the field of rice under Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU).It is situated at Aduthurai, in Thanjavur district, it was established in April, 1985 in TNAU to meet the research requirements of the region with the help of existing Agricultural Colleges and Research centres and perform lead function for rice and rice based cropping system research.

- India observed 2018 as national year of millets. FAO has decided to observe 2023 as the International year of millets.
- Second Green Revolution (Eco-Farming or Organic Farming): In organic farming synthetic fertilizers, pesticides, growth regulator and livestock feed additives are not used. This type of farming rely on crop rotation, crop residues, animal manure, off-farm organic wastes and biological pest control to maintain soil productivity. This farming method is being adopted by very few farmers in the state.
- TANTEA (TANTEA-Tamil Nadu Tea Plantation Corporation Limited) is one of the Biggest Black Tea Producers in India with high quality clonal tea. Its plantation spreads over nearly 4500 hec.
- Tamil Nadu Dairy Development Corporation Ltd. was transformed into the newly registered Tamil Nadu Co-operative Milk Producers Federation Limited Popularly known as “Aavin”.
- To promote organic farming a central scheme named ‘National Project on Organic Farming’ was launched Apart from general things (creating awareness, promoting organic fertilizers, training, capacity building etc.), the scheme provides financial assistance through Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for agro-waste compost production units, bio-fertilizers/bio-pesticides production units, development and implementation of quality control regime, human resource development etc.
- The list of IT parks in Tamil Nadu Tidel Park, Ascendas, Mahindra world city 4 IT & ITES SEZ TIDEL-II, IT & ITES SEZ TIDEL-III, Coimbatore SEZ - Tidel Park
- NH - 44 is the longest national highway in Tamil Nadu which runs from Hosur to Kanniyakumari (627.2 km) Via Dharmapuri-Salem-KarurDindigul-Madurai-Tirunelveli.
- NH - 785 is the shortest national highway in Tamil Nadu which runs from Madurai to Tuvarankuruchi. (38 km).

CIVICS

Indian Constitution:

- Prem Behari Narain Raizada was the calligrapher of the Indian Constitution. The original constitution was handwritten by him in a flowing italic style.
- Liberty, Equality and Fraternity were the important slogans during the French Revolution in 1789. They are given importance in the Preamble of our Constitution.
- Right to Property (Art. 31) was deleted from the list of Fundamental Rights by the 44th Amendment Act, 1978. It is made a legal right under Article 300-A in Part XII of the Constitution.
- The 86th Amendment Act of 2002 changed the subject -matter of Article 45 and made elementary education a fundamental right under Article 21 A. The amended directive requires the State to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years.
- The Union List, State List and Concurrent List consisting at present 100, 61 and 52 items respectively. The 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 transferred five subjects to Concurrent List from State List, that is, education, forests, weights and measures, protection of wild animals and birds, and administration of justice; constitution and organisation of all courts excepts the Supreme Court and the high courts.
- In 1969, the Tamil Nadu Government appointed a threemember committee under the chairmanship of Dr. P V Rajamannar to examine the entire question of Centre-state relations.
- In 2004, the Government of India decided to create new category of languages called as “classical languages”. So far, the six languages are granted the classical language status namely Tamil (2004), Sanskrit (2005), Telugu (2008), Kannada (2008), Malayalam (2013) and Odia (2014).
- 42nd amendment of the Constitution is known as the mini Constitution.

Central Government:

- It is a well known fact that the President of India resides at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi. The residence and the office of the President are located in the same building. However he has two other office cum residences where he conducts office at least once a year. They are 'The Retreat Building' at Shimla and the 'Rashtrapati Nilayam' at Hyderabad. These locations one in North and other one is South symbolise the unity of the country and unity of the diverse culture of the people.
- **Kerala and Punjab** are the States where the President's Rule was imposed for maximum number of times i.e., nine times in both States.
- If the posts of President and Vice-President lie vacant, Chief Justice of India works as President. This situation happened in 1969 when Chief Justice M.Hidayutalla was appointed as President of India.
- **Casting Vote** According to Article (100) of the Constitution, the vice-president can only cast his vote when there is a tie over the Bill in the Rajya Sabha. It means that there is need for one vote only to pass the Bill. No members have any right to oppose his decision.
- **Money Bill:** Rajya Sabha does not have any power to amend or reject the Money bill. Lok Sabha can only introduce Money bill and once it is approved by the Lok Sabha, it is passed to Rajya Sabha for its approval. If Rajya Sabha fails to pass it within 14 days then the bill gets passed without the approval of Rajya Sabha. Also, Lok Sabha does not need to consider the amendments proposed by the Rajya Sabha. Lok Sabha can reject all the proposals and pass it.
- Elected members of the Parliament from Tamil Nadu. **Rajya Sabha – 18 members Lok Sabha – 39 members**
- The Supreme Court of India, New Delhi was inaugurated on January 28, 1950. It succeeded the Federal Court of India, established under the Government of India Act of 1935.

State Government:

- In Tamil Nadu, according to the strength of Legislative Assembly (234 members), the number of ministers may be up to 36, i.e. 15 percent of 234.
- The Tamil Nadu Legislative Council was abolished by Tamil Nadu Legislative Council (Abolition) Bill, 1986. The Act came into force on the 1st November 1986.
- The High Court of Madras is the one of the three High Courts in India established in the three Presidency Towns of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras by letters patent granted by Queen Victoria, bearing date 26 June 1862. The High Court building is the second largest judicial complex in the world after London.

India's Foreign Policy:

- The Ministry of External Affairs of India also known as Foreign Ministry comes under Government of India is responsible for the conduct of foreign relations of India. The foreign Service Training Institute, New Delhi established in 1986 provides training for officers of Indian Foreign Services (IFS).

India's International Relations:

- The countries that share the most number of neighbours touching its borders are China and Russia.
- From the Indus Civilisation, India and Afghanistan have a deep-rooted multi-faceted relationship. During the reign of Kanishka, a large number of Indian missionaries went to China, Central Asia and Afghanistan to preach their religion.

- Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan of Baluchistan (a border province in today's Pakistan) was a prominent leader of the Indian Independence movement and active supporter of the Indian National Congress.
- The Teen Bigha Corridor is a strip of land belonging to India on the West Bengal– Bangladesh border, which was leased to Bangladesh in 2011.
- Gur Padmasambhava, a Buddhist saint who went to Bhutan from India, played an influential role in spreading Buddhism and cementing traditional ties between people of both nations.
- McMahon Line: This is the boundary line between India and China, east of Bhutan. It was determined 1914 at a conference of representatives of British India, Tibet and China. The Secretary of State for India (in British Cabinet), Arthur Henry McMahon, represented British India at the Conference.
- LoC (Line of Control) The Ceasefire line determined in 1949 was called the LoC after 1972. This is the boundary that came to be agreed between India and Pakistan under the Shimla Agreement of 1972. It was called Radcliffe Line at the time of partition in 1947, (Radcliffe was the chairman of the border commission.) This is now called LoC.
- Ashoka had sent his son Mahinda and daughter Sangamitra to Ceylon (Sri Lanka) for the propagation of Buddhism. Chola kings Rajaraja I and Rajendra I conquered the northern part of Ceylon.
- One of the oldest maritime trading routes ran from ancient Sumeria via Bahrain to the Indus Civilisation called Meluha.
- The acronym BRICS was coined by Jim O'Neill, a famous British economist. He predicted that by year 2050 Brazil, Russia, India and China would become bigger than the six most industrialised nations in dollar terms and would completely change the power dynamics of the last 300 years.
- It is the result of an international design competition held in 1969. An Austrian designer Svoboda won the competition with her design, which combined the different letters of the organisation's name in a rounded design.

ECONOMICS

Gross Domestic Product and its Growth: an Introduction:

- In 1867-68 for the first time Dadabhai Navroji had ascertained the Per Capital Income in his book "Poverty and Un-British Rule of India".
- The modern concept of GDP was first developed by Simon Kuznets for a US Congress report in 1934.
- Estimation of GDP The Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), under the Ministry of Statistical department keeps the records. It's processes involves conducting an annual survey of industries and compilation of various indexes like the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) Consumer Price Index (CPI) etc.
- Gross value added (GVA) is the measure of the value of goods and services produced in an area, industry or sector of an economy. $GVA = GDP + \text{subsidies} - (\text{direct, sales}) \text{ taxes}$.
- Human Development Index In 1990 Mahbub ul Haq, a Pakistani Economist at the United Nations, introduced the Human Development Index (HDI). The HDI is a composite index of life expectancy at birth, adult literacy rate and standard of living measured as a logarithmic function of GDP, adjusted to purchasing power parity. India climbed one spot to 130 out of 189 countries in the latest human development rankings released today by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Between 1990 and 2017, India's HDI value incased from 0.427 to 0.640, an increase of nearly 50 percent – and an indicator of the country's remarkable achievement in lifting millions of people out of poverty.

Globalization and Trade:**Rounds of GATT**

- First in Geneva (Switzerland) (1947)
- Second in Annecy (France) in 1949
- Third in Torquay (UK) in 1950 – 51
- Fourth, fifth, and Sixth in Geneva (Switzerland) in 1956, 1960-61, 1964 -67.
- Seventh in Tokyo (Japan) in 1973 – 79
- Eighth and final round at Punta del Este (Uruguay) in 1986 – 1994, known as 'Uruguay Round'

World Trade Organization(WTO):

- **Headquarter:** Geneva, Switzerland
- **Purpose:** Regulation, International trade
- **Members of WTO:** Director General, Four Deputy Director General, and other 600 Official Staff from around 80 member countries.

Food Security and Nutrition:

- **Minimum Support Price:** Minimum Support Price is a price fixed by an expert group for a particular crop by considering various costs involved in the cultivation of that crop. After announcing the MSP, the State will open procurement centres in places where these crops are widely grown. However, the farmers are free to sell in the open market if they get a better price for their crop produce. On the other hand, if the open market price is lower than the MSP, the farmers would get an assured price (the MSP) by selling their produce to the FCI.
- National Food Security Act in Tamil Nadu On 1 November 2016, National Food Security Act was implemented in Tamil Nadu after holding out for three years.

Government and Taxes:

- Taxation in India has its roots from the period of Manu Smriti and Arthashastra. The present Indian tax system is based on this ancient tax system.
- In India, Income Tax was introduced for the first time in 1860 by Sir James Wilson in order to meet the losses sustained by the Government on account of the Mutiny of 1857
- France was the first country to implement GST in 1954.

Industrial Clusters in Tamil Nadu:

- Countries in the southern hemisphere are called Global South countries