



Unit - 1 : Our Country

The Face of Our Motherland

India is the **seventh** largest country in the world in area and the **second** largest in population, after China.

India is also known as **Bharat** or **Hindustan**.

It is located in the southern part of the continent of Asia.

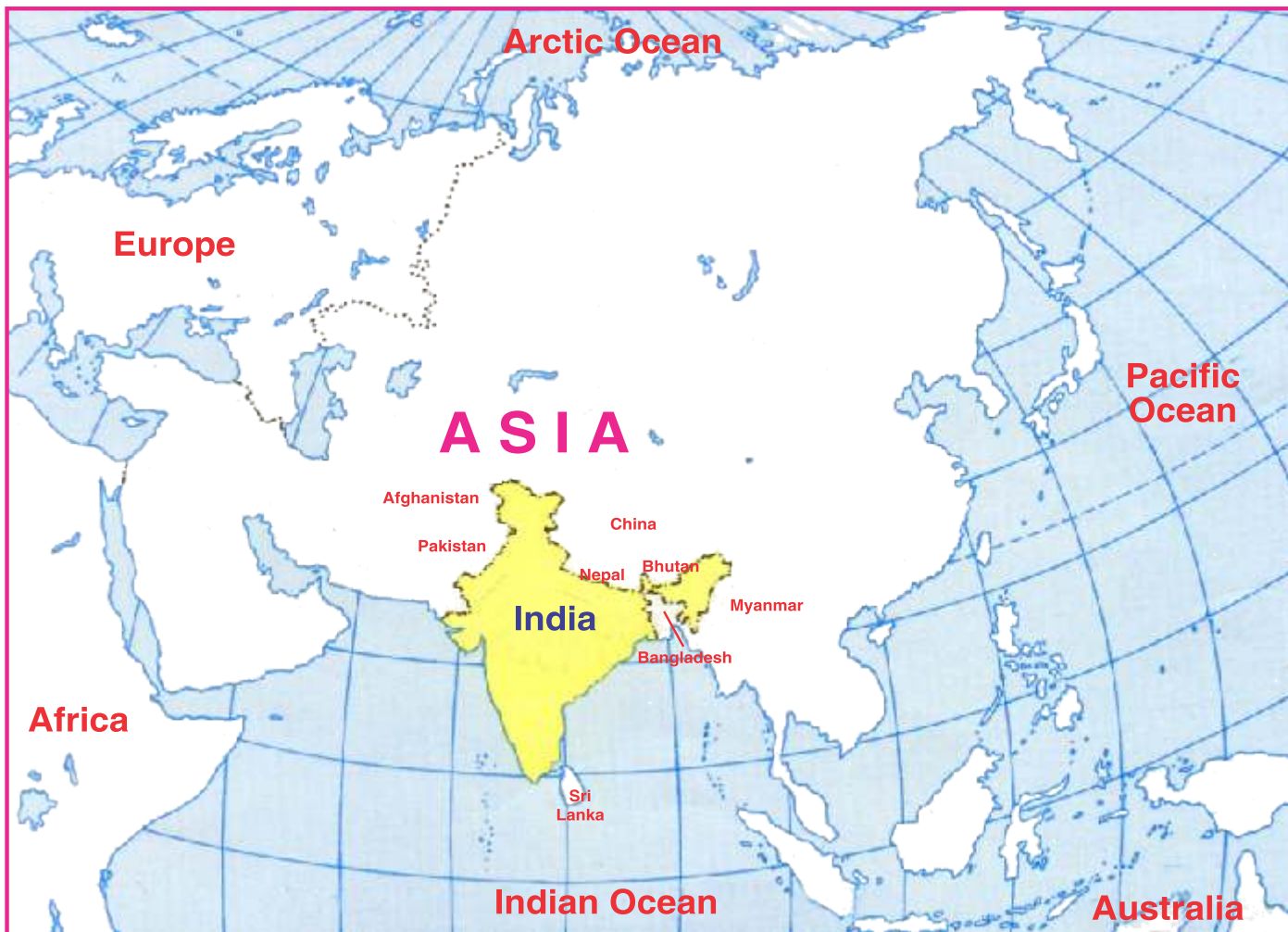
India has a land frontier of **15,200 kilometres** and a coastline of **7,516.6 kilometres**, including the mainland coastline as well as of the islands.

If you look at the map of India, you will find that its northern part looks like a **crown** and the southern part is shaped like a **cone**.

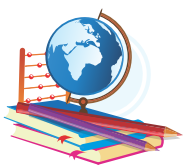
Looking Ahead

In this lesson :

- ★ The Neighbouring countries of India
- ★ Physical features of India.



India and its neighbouring countries



India extends from north to south about 3,200 kilometres and from east to west about 3,000 kilometres.

India holds about **16 percent** of the world's population, though it has only **2.42 percent** of the earth's surface.

INDIA AND ITS NEIGHBOURS

India is surrounded by many big and small countries. The neighbouring countries of India are:

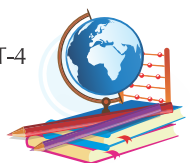
1. Pakistan
2. Afghanistan
3. China
4. Bhutan
5. Nepal
6. Bangladesh
7. Myanmar
8. Sri Lanka

POLITICAL DIVISION OF INDIA

Since India is a big country, it has been divided into smaller parts called the **States** and the **Union Territories**. There are 29 States and 7 Union Territories in India. Each State has its own government, which is chosen by the people of that State. The Union Territories are directly governed by the Central Government.



India- States and Union Territories.



The states and their capital are listed in the table.

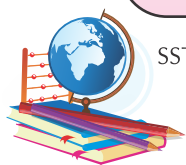
State	Capital	State	Capital
1. Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	2. Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar
3. Assam	Dispur	4. Bihar	Patna
5. Chhattisgrah	Raipur	6. Goa	Panaji
7. Gujarat	Gandhinagar	8. Haryana	Chandigarh
9. Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	10. Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar
11. Jharkhand	Ranchi	12. Karnataka	Bengaluru
13. Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram		
14. Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	15. Maharashtra	Mumbai
16. Manipur	Imphal	17. Meghalaya	Shillong
18. Mizoram	Aizawl	19. Nagaland	Kohima
20. Odisha	Bhubaneshwar	21. Punjab	Chandigarh
22. Rajasthan	Jaipur	23. Sikkim	Gangtok
24. Tamil Nadu	Chennai	25. Telangana	Hyderabad
26. Tripura	Agartala	27. Uttarakhand	Dehra Dun
28. Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	29. West Bengal	Kolkata

The Union Territories and their capitals are listed below

Union Territories	Capitals
1. Delhi (National Capital Territory)	Delhi
2. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Port Blair
3. Chandigarh	Chandigarh
4. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Silvassa
5. Daman and Diu	Daman
6. Lakshadweep	Kavaratti
7. Puducherry	Puducherry

Know More

- ★ India got its name Bharat from the great ruler of the past called **Bharat**.
- ★ **Rajasthan** is the largest State and **Goa** is the smallest State in terms of area.
- ★ **Uttar Pradesh** is the most populated State and **Sikkim** is the least populated State.
- ★ Delhi called the **National Capital Territory**.



PHYSICAL DIVISIONS OF INDIA

India is a country of mountains, hills, plains, plateaus, deserts, forests, rivers, lakes and coasts.

The Great Himalayas are to the north of India. The Indian Ocean is towards its south. The Arabian Sea is towards its west and the Bay of Bengal on its east.

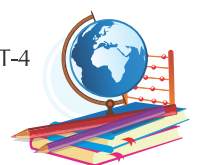
The main physical divisions of India are as follows :

1. The Northern Mountains
2. The Northern Plains
3. The Great Indian Desert
4. The Southern Plateau
5. The Coastal Plains and Islands

You will read about these physical divisions in detail in the next few lessons.



Map of India–Physical Divisions





WORD MEANINGS

continent : a big land mass

physical : outer look



LET US RECALL

- India is the **seventh largest** country in the world.
- India lies in the continent of **Asia**.
- India holds **16 percent** of the world's population.
- India has **29 States** and **7 Union Territories**.
- The main physical divisions of India are **the Northern Mountains, the Northern Plains, the Great Indian Desert, the Southern Plateau and the Coastal Plains and Islands**.

TESTING TIME

TASKS FOR FA & SA

(Based on CCE)

A. Tick (✓) the correct answer :

- The east west extend of India is about :

(a) 3,000 km	<input type="radio"/>	(b) 300 km	<input type="radio"/>
(c) 1,300 km	<input type="radio"/>	(d) 2,300 km	<input type="radio"/>
- Which is the most populated country in the world?

(a) Russia	<input type="radio"/>	(b) China	<input type="radio"/>
(c) Canada	<input type="radio"/>	(d) Egypt	<input type="radio"/>
- Which of the following lies to the north of India?

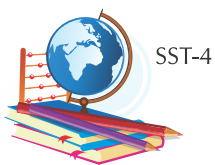
(a) Himalayas	<input type="radio"/>	(b) Arabian Sea	<input type="radio"/>
(c) Indian Ocean	<input type="radio"/>	(d) Bay of Bengal	<input type="radio"/>
- How many States are there in India?

(a) 25	<input type="radio"/>	(b) 29	<input type="radio"/>
(c) 30	<input type="radio"/>	(d) 38	<input type="radio"/>
- How many Union Territories are there in India?

(a) 7	<input type="radio"/>	(b) 9	<input type="radio"/>
(c) 11	<input type="radio"/>	(d) 13	<input type="radio"/>

B. Write True or False :

- India is also known as Bharat.
- India is the most populated country in the world.
- The southern part of India is like a crown.
- India has only 2.42 percent of the earth's surface.
- India lies in the continent of Asia.



SST-4



C. Answer the following questions :

1. Which part of India looks like a crown?
2. Which countries are India's neighbours?
3. What are the main physical divisions of India?
4. Why has India been divided into States and Union Territories?
5. What is the difference between a State and a Union Territories?

ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS

TASKS FOR FA

1. On an outline map of Asia, mark the following countries.
Nepal Bhutan Bangladesh Pakistan ChinaSri Lanka
2. On an outline map of India, mark its various physical regions.
3. During your holidays, you travelled by train from Jammu to Chennai. Write a letter to your friend describing different landforms you saw, languages you heard, dresses you saw and the food you ate.

SPEAKING SKILLS

'MERA BHARAT MAHAN' – speak for a few minutes on this topic. Make sure your points are genuine.



LIFE SKILLS

Make a model of India using clay. Use more clay to make the different physical features of India (the mountains, the plains, the plateaus, the deserts and the coastal areas). Put the model in the open sun for half an hour. Once the clay has dried, decorate it with sand, soil and grass. You can stick them to the model using glue.

H.O.T.S.

(High Order Thinking Skills)

Which State has been divided into two state in 2014? Also name the capital of these States.

