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# Ch 1. INDIA — SIZE AND LOCATION (Notes )

India is an ancient civilisation but now it is a developing nation. It has shown remarkable progress in various fields..

## Location

- India lies entirely in the Northern Hemisphere.
- India's mainland extends between 8°4'N and 37°8'N latitudes, and 68°7'E and 97°25'E longitudes.
- The Tropic of Cancer (23°30'N) divides India into two almost equal parts.
- The island groups of Lakshadweep and Andman & Nicobar are also part of India.

#### Size

- Covering an area of 3.28 million square kilometres, India's total area is 2.4% of the total geographical area of the world.
- India is the world's seventh largest country with a land boundary of about 15,200 km, with total length of the coastline being 7,516.6 km.
- India's east-west extent appears to be smaller than the north-south extent.
- India's latitudinal and longitudinal extent is about 30 degrees.
- India's standard time is based on 82.30 degrees E meridian, which passes near Mirzapur in UP.
- Latitudinal extent influences duration of the day and night.

### India and the World

- The Indian landmass is centrally located between West and East Asia.
- The trans Indian ocean routes connect countries in the west and counties in the east.
- India's protruding Deccan Peninsula helped India to establish close contacts with West Asia, Africa and Europe, South-east and East Asia.
- India's contacts with the world via land routes are much more than her maritime contacts.
- India is the only nation which has a ocean named after it.

- India has contributed a lot to the world in forms of ideas, philosophies (Upanishads, Ramayana, Panchatantra) and mathematics (Indian numerals and decimal system).
- In exchange, India's architecture was influenced by Greek sculpture and architectural styles from West Asia.

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