



# Physical Features of India

**In this lesson, we will learn about :**

- ▣ Location of India
- ▣ Its neighbouring countries
- ▣ Physical features and Physical divisions of India

We live in India which is the seventh largest country in the world. It has the second largest population in the world. The population of India is above 125 crore. It forms a large part of the Asian continent. The mountains and seas separate it from the rest of Asia. It is

bounded in the north by the great Himalayas. It is surrounded by three water bodies — the Arabian Sea in the west, the Bay of Bengal in the east and the Indian Ocean in the south. The Indian Ocean is named after our country.



Map of India with its neighbouring countries

India has several countries as her neighbours. China, Nepal and Bhutan are to her north, Bangladesh and Myanmar lie to the east and Pakistan and Afghanistan to the west. To the south lie Sri Lanka and Maldives. In shape, India is broad in the middle and narrows towards the south forming a triangular shape. It lies in the north of the Equator. The Tropic of Cancer passes through the middle of India.

Look at the given map. You will see two group of islands.

1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the Bay of Bengal.
2. Lakshadweep Islands in the Arabian Sea.

There are 29 states and 7 union territories in India. Delhi is the National Capital Territory.



## Physical Features

The land surface of India varies from place to place. It is not the same everywhere. It has high mountains, a big plateau, large plains, a desert, lakes, rivers, etc. These are called the **Physical Features**.

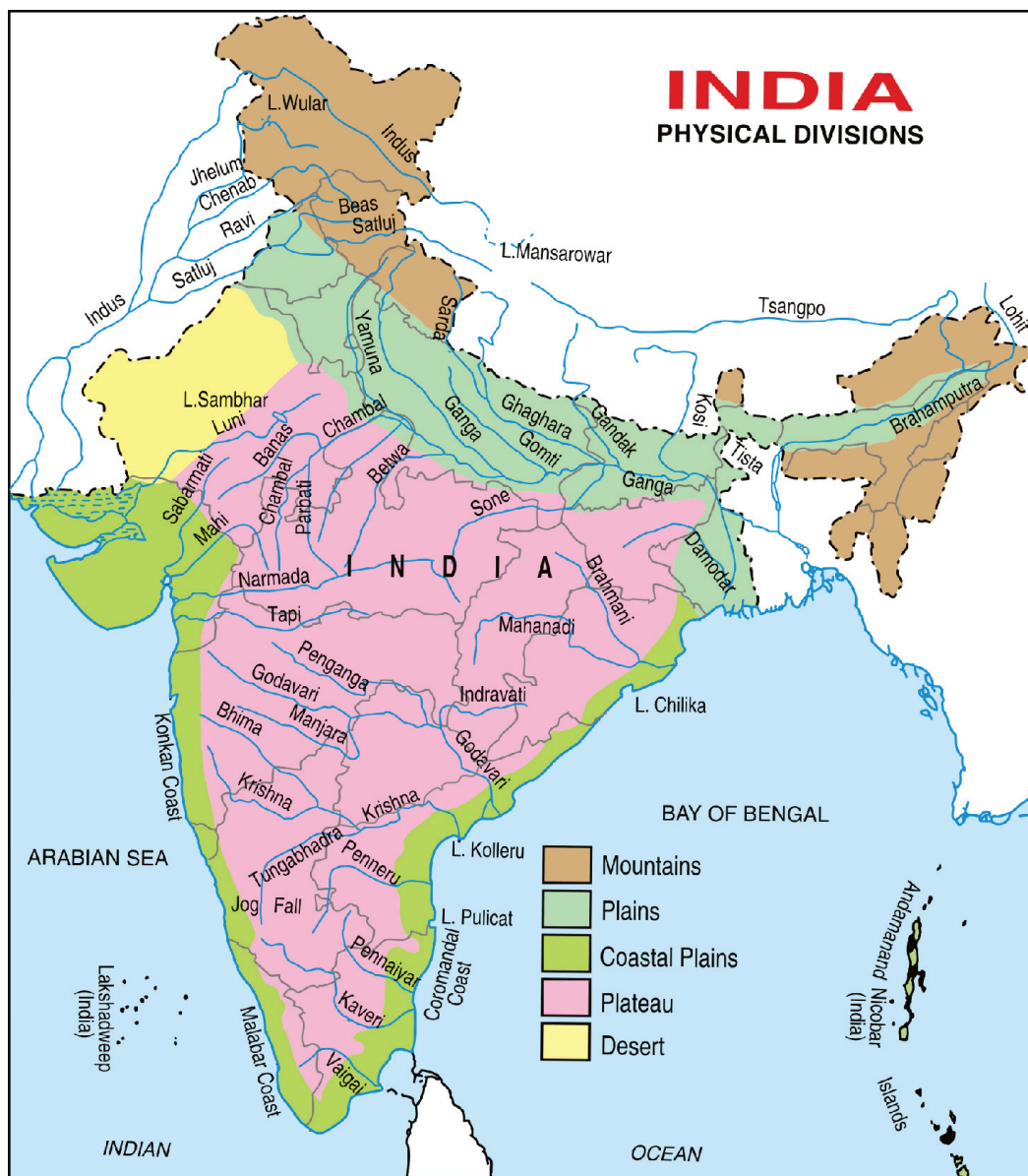
The climate of the country also varies from region to region. Some places have hot climate while others have cold climate.

The area of land which is similar in features,

climate, natural vegetation and general way of life is called **Physical Division**. India has five main physical divisions.

1. The Northern Mountains
2. The Northern Plains
3. The Great Indian Desert
4. The Southern Plateaus
5. The Coastal Plains.

We will read about each one of them in the following lessons.



Map of India — Physical Features



## KEY WORDS

- └ Peninsula — A large area of land surrounded by water on three sides.
- └ Island — An area of land surrounded by water on all sides.
- └ Coastal plains — Flat and level land along the sea.



## THINGS I HAVE LEARNT

1. India is the seventh largest country of the world.
2. It has the second largest population in the world.
3. It is a part of the Asian Continent.
4. The five major physical divisions of India are : the Northern Mountains, the Northern Plains, the Great Indian Desert, the Southern Plateaus and the Coastal Plains.



## THINK AND ANSWER

### A. Tick (✓) the correct answers.

1. Area wise India is the \_\_\_\_\_ largest country in the world.  
(a) Fifth                      (b) Sixth                      (c) Seventh
2. Which large water body is in the west of India?  
(a) Arabian Sea              (b) Bay of Bengal              (c) Indian Ocean
3. India lies on which side of the equator?  
(a) East                      (b) North                      (c) South
4. Which important imaginary line passes through the middle of India?  
(a) Equator                      (b) Tropic of Cancer              (c) Tropic of Capricorn

### B. Write T for the true and F for the false statements.

1. The population of India is 150 crores.
2. India is surrounded by water bodies on all four sides.
3. The Indian Ocean is in the west of India.
4. Pakistan lies to the west of India.

**C. Match the following columns.**

- |                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| 1. Himalayas        | (a) Middle |
| 2. Indian Ocean     | (b) East   |
| 3. Bay of Bengal    | (c) South  |
| 4. Arabian Sea      | (d) West   |
| 5. Tropic of Cancer | (e) North  |

**D. Fill in the blanks. Choose words from the box.**

Equator   Himalayas   second   Andaman and Nicobar Islands   Indian   Lakshadweep

1. India is bounded in the north by the \_\_\_\_\_
2. India lies to the north of the \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are the two groups of islands in the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea respectively.
4. India is the \_\_\_\_\_ most populous country in the world.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ Ocean is named after our country.

**E. Answer these questions.**

1. Describe the shape of India.
2. Name the neighbouring countries of India.
3. How many states and union territories are there in India?
4. What are the five physical divisions of India?
5. Why is Indian Ocean named after India?
6. Why is India called a peninsula?

[VALUE BASED QUESTION]

[HOTS]



**DO AND LEARN**

**F. On a big chart paper draw an outline map of India. Shade the physical divisions in given colours:**

- |                      |               |                     |               |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|
| ┐ Northern mountains | — Dark brown  | ┐ Southern plateaus | — yellow      |
| ┐ Northern plains    | — Dark green  | ┐ Coastal plains    | — Light green |
| ┐ Indian desert      | — Light brown |                     |               |



**SURF AND LEARN**

[www.all-indiatravel.com/india/physical-features-india.html](http://www.all-indiatravel.com/india/physical-features-india.html).



**LIFE SKILLS**

**THINKING**

Make a colourful collage on the five physical divisions of India. Take help from the Internet.