

INDIA & ITS NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES

SSC CGL General Awareness - History, Culture, Geography, Economy

Comprehensive Guide for Competitive Exams



India - The South Asian Giant

Geographical & Historical Overview

India's Geographical Position

Map of India showing neighboring countries

India shares borders with 7 countries and has a coastline of 7,516.6 km



Geographical Facts

- Area: 3.287 million km² (7th largest)
- Latitudinal extent: 8°4'N to 37°6'N
- Longitudinal extent: 68°7'E to 97°25'E
- Highest point: K2 (8,611 m)
- Longest river: Ganga (2,525 km)



Historical Timeline

- Indus Valley Civilization (3300–1300 BCE)
- Vedic Period (1500–500 BCE)
- Mauryan Empire (322–185 BCE)
- Mughal Empire (1526–1857)
- British Raj (1858–1947)
- Independence: August 15, 1947



Economic Overview

- GDP: \$3.737 trillion (2023)
- GDP growth: 7.2% (2022-23)
- Per capita income: \$2,601
- Major sectors: Services, Industry,

Agriculture

- Currency: Indian Rupee (₹)



Pakistan

Basic Information

Capital:

Islamabad

Currency:

Pakistani Rupee

Area:

881,913 km²

Population:

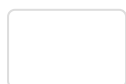
242 million

Historical Relations

- Partition of India in 1947
- Four wars (1947, 1965, 1971, 1999)
- Simla Agreement (1972)
- Lahore Declaration (1999)

★ Key Facts

- ✓ Border: Radcliffe Line (3,323 km)
- ✓ Major rivers: Indus, Jhelum, Chenab
- ✓ Official language: Urdu



China



Basic Information

Capital:

Beijing

Currency:

Yuan

Area:

9.597 million km²

Population:

1.4 billion



Historical Relations

- Silk Road connections
- 1962 Sino-Indian War
- Panchsheel Agreement (1954)
- Border disputes continue

★ Key Facts

- ✓ Border: McMahon Line
- ✓ World's second largest economy
- ✓ Major trading partner of India



Bangladesh



Basic Information

Capital:

Dhaka

Currency:

Taka

Area:

148,460 km²

Population:

169 million

Historical Relations

- Liberation War (1971)
- India-Bangladesh Treaty (1972)
- Land Boundary Agreement (2015)
- Cultural and linguistic ties

★ Key Facts

- ✓ Border: 4,096 km (longest)
- ✓ Shared rivers: 54
- ✓ Official language: Bengali



Nepal

Basic Information

Capital:

Kathmandu

Currency:

Nepalese Rupee

Area:

147,516 km²

Population:

30 million

Historical Relations

- 1950 Indo-Nepal Treaty
- Open border policy
- Strong cultural and religious ties
- Gorkha recruitment in Indian Army

Key Facts

- ✓ World's highest peak: Mt. Everest
- ✓ Birthplace of Lord Buddha
- ✓ Hindu majority country



Bhutan

Basic Information

Capital:
Thimphu

Currency:
Ngultrum

Area:
38,394 km²

Population:
0.8 million

Historical Relations

- 1949 Treaty of Friendship
- 2007 revised treaty

- India's largest development partner
- Hydropower cooperation

★ Key Facts

- ✓ Measures Gross National Happiness
- ✓ Carbon negative country
- ✓ Last Himalayan Buddhist kingdom

MM

Myanmar

Basic Information

Capital:

Naypyidaw

Currency:

Kyat

Area:

676,578 km²

Population:

54 million

Historical Relations

- Cultural exchange since ancient times
- Part of British India until 1937
- Look East Policy connection
- Strategic importance for NE states

★ Key Facts

- ✓ Only ASEAN country bordering India
- ✓ Shared border: 1,643 km

- ✓ Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Project



Sri Lanka

Basic Information

Capital:

Colombo

Currency:

Sri Lankan Rupee

Area:

65,610 km²

Population:

22 million

Historical Relations

- Ancient cultural and religious ties
- Indian Peace Keeping Force (1987-90)
- Free Trade Agreement (2000)
- Fishermen disputes

★ Key Facts

- ✓ Separated by Palk Strait
- ✓ Adam's Bridge (Rama Setu)
- ✓ Major tea exporter

Comparative
Analysis

Economic & Geographical
Comparison

Economic Indicators (2023)

Country	GDP (USD)	Growth Rate	Per Capita
India	\$3.737 T	7.2%	\$2,600
China	\$17.7 T	5.2%	\$12,000
Pakistan	\$376 B	0.3%	\$1,500
Bangladesh	\$460 B	6.0%	\$2,700
Sri Lanka	\$74 B	-3.1%	\$3,300

Geographical Comparison

Country	Area (km²)	Border with India	High Point
India	3,287,263	-	K2 (8,611 m)
China	9,596,961	3,488 km	Mount Everest (8,848 m)
Pakistan	881,913	3,323 km	K2 (8,611 m)
Bangladesh	148,460	4,096 km	Keoladeo Ghats (1,037 m)
Nepal	147,516	1,751 km	Mount Everest (8,848 m)

Important Agreements & Organizations

SAARC - South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (1985)

BBIN - Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal Initiative

BIMSTEC - Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation

Indo-Bhutan Treaty of Friendship (2007)

Current Affairs & Recent Developments

2023-2024
Updates

Diplomatic Relations

- India-China border talks continue
- India-Bangladesh connectivity projects
- Nepal's political stability concerns
- Sri Lanka economic crisis support
- Myanmar military coup implications

Trade & Economy

- India-China trade deficit concerns
- Rupee trade with neighbors
- Regional connectivity projects
- Energy cooperation
- Tourism revival post-pandemic

Security Issues

- Cross-border terrorism concerns
- Maritime security in Indian Ocean
- Border infrastructure development
- Cyber security cooperation
- Disaster management coordination

Important Points to Remember

- ✓ India shares longest border with Bangladesh (4,096 km)
- ✓ Only country having open border with India: Nepal
- ✓ China is India's largest trading partner among neighbors
- ✓ Bhutan is the only country to measure Gross National Happiness
- ✓ Sri Lanka was known as Ceylon until 1972

India & Neighboring Countries - Complete Guide for SSC CGL

Covering History, Culture, Geography, Economy and Current Affairs

