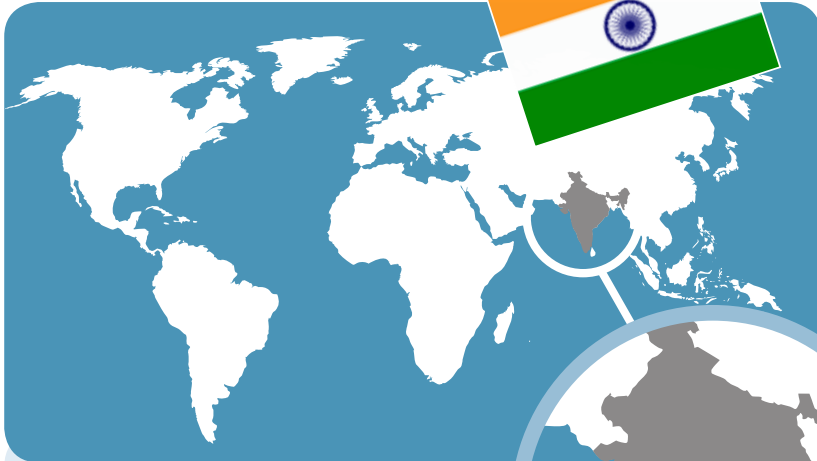


Fairtrade: a World of Difference

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India



Geography: India is the seventh largest country in the world with a coast line stretching over 4,700 miles. India is bordered to the southwest by the Arabian Sea, to the southeast by the Bay of Bengal and in the south by the Indian Ocean. In the north, India borders China, Bhutan, and Nepal, and the Himalayan mountain range provides a natural boundary. Its western borders with Pakistan lie in the Punjab Plain and the Thar Desert. Although India occupies only 2.4% of the world's land area, it supports over 15% of the world's population. Almost 40% of Indians are younger than 15 years of age. About a quarter of India's population is urban, which is nearly the whole population of the USA! Delhi, Calcutta and Mumbai have over 10 million residents each.

Quick Hindi lesson:
how to say "hello."
Say "Namasté
(na-ma-stay)"

Language

There are 22 regional languages in India such as Bengali, Kashmiri and Gujarati. Hindi is the official language of India but is only spoken by 20% of the population. English is the most commonly used language in the country and is the additional official language but each state has its own official language as well.



Photo: Brian Condor

Did You Know?

Agriculture is the predominant occupation in India, accounting for about 52% of employment. Major agricultural products include rice, wheat, oilseed, cotton, jute, tea, sugarcane, potatoes, cattle, water buffalo, sheep, goats, poultry and fish.

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Meaning of the Flag

In 1947 India was established as an independent state. India adopted the three colours of orange, white and green with a blue Ashoka Chakra at the centre. The Ashoka Chakra represents the “wheel of the law”, the power of the state to bring peace and prosperity to the country. The wheel has 24 spokes and these signify 24 hours each day and the progress which is made in the country every hour. In 1931 when the flag was first introduced, the colours represented the two main ethnic groups of the country, with the orange stripe symbolising the Hindu people and the green stripe symbolising the Muslims. The white stripe symbolises the peace desired between them.



Religion: Hinduism 80%, Islam, 12%, Christianity 2%, Sikhism, 2%, Jainism 0.5%, Buddhism 0.7%

Population: **1140 million**

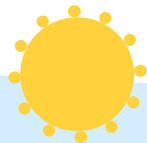
Population Density:
360 people per sq km

Literacy: **62.8%**

Children enrolled in
Primary Education: **89.8%**

Children enrolled in
Secondary Education:
66.4%

HIV/AIDS prevalence
in population (15-49
years old): **0.8%**



Climate India, being a vast country does not fit into any one zone. It is divided into four main climatic zones:

- 1) Alpine, in the high altitudes of the Himalayas.
- 2) Subtropical, found in the most northern part of India. Summers are hot and wet while temperatures drop substantially in winter.
- 3) Tropical, split into Tropical Wet Monsoon and Tropical Dry
- 4) Arid, identified by high temperatures and low rainfall, mostly found in the western part of the country.

Did You Know?

Traditional clothing in India varies across different parts of the country. Popular styles include draped garments such as sari for women and dhoti or lungi for men. Stitched clothes such as salwar kameez for women and kurta-pyjama and European-style trousers and shirts for men, are also worn.

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India, Agrocel, Rice

History

| 3000 BC | 1000 BC | 527 BC | 400 BC | 1288 | 1500s | 1611 | 1631 |
|---|--|---|---|------------------------------|---|---|-----------------|
| Indus Valley civilisation | Hinduism begins to take deep root | Rajputs create many kingdoms in central India and Rajasthan | Mauryan Empire | Marco Polo visits India | Moghul Empire | East India Trading Company established by the British | Taj Mahal built |
| 1751 | 1853 | 1857 | 1858 | 1919 | 1947 | 1971 | |
| Britain becomes the leading colonial power in India | Railway, postal services and telegraph lines introduced in India | First War of Indian Independence | British Crown officially takes over the Indian government | Massacre at Jallian-walabagh | Indian independence and partition of India and Pakistan | Wars with Pakistan and liberation of Bangladesh | |

Country Focus: Haryana State

Haryana is situated in Northern India, bordered by Punjab to the north and Rajasthan to the west and south. It also surrounds Delhi on three sides. The land is flat and arable and most of the population are farmers.

