

India Size and Location

1. Choose the right answer from the four alternatives given below.

- (i) The Tropic of Cancer does not pass through
 - (a) Rajasthan (b) Odisha
 - (c) Chhattisgarh (d) Tripura
- (ii) The easternmost longitude of India is
 - (a) $97^{\circ} 25' E$ (b) $68^{\circ} 7' E$
 - (c) $77^{\circ} 6' E$ (d) $82^{\circ} 32' E$
- (iii) Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and Sikkim have common frontiers with
 - (a) China (b) Bhutan
 - (c) Nepal (d) Myanmar
- (iv) If you intend to visit Kavarati during your summer vacations, which one of the following Union Territories of India you will be going to
 - (a) Puducherry (b) Lakshadweep
 - (c) Andaman and Nicobar (d) Daman and Diu
- (v) My friend hails from a country which does not share land boundary with India. Identify the country.
 - (a) Bhutan (b) Tajikistan
 - (c) Bangladesh (d) Nepal

Answer:

- (i) The Tropic of Cancer does not pass through – **(b) Odisha.**
- (ii) The easternmost longitude of India is – **(a) $97^{\circ} 25' E$.**
- (iii) Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and Sikkim have common frontiers with **(c) Nepal.**
- (iv) Kavarati is situated at the union territories of **(b) Lakshadweep.**
- (v) **(b) Tajikistan** does not share a land boundary with India.

Q2. Answer the following questions briefly.

- (i) Name the group of islands lying in the Arabian Sea.
- (ii) Name the countries which are larger than India.
- (iii) Which island group of India lies to its south-east?
- (iv) Which island countries are our southern neighbours?

Answer

- (i):** Lakshadweep: India is located in the Northern Hemisphere, the main part of which is $8^{\circ} 4' N$ and $37^{\circ} 6' N$ and longitudes $68^{\circ} 7' E$ and $97^{\circ} 25' E$ between latitudes. The Tropic of Cancer ($23^{\circ} 30' N$) divides the country into two almost equal parts, with the Lakshadweep Islands lying in the Arabian Sea southwest of the mainland and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the Bay of Bengal. South-east of the mainland.
- (ii):** Countries larger than India are Russia, Canada, U.S.A., China, Brazil and Australia. Russia is the largest of all countries, with an area of 17.09 million km, while India has an area of 3.28 million km.
- (iii):** Andaman and Nicobar Islands are located in the Bay of Bengal in the south-east of India. The total length of the coastline is 7,566 km including the islands of Andaman-Nicobar and Lakshadweep.
- (iv):** Our southern neighbours are Sri Lanka and Maldives. The Maldives Islands lie to the south of the Lakshadweep Islands, while Sri Lanka is separated from India by a narrow channel of sea formed by the Palk Strait and the Gulf of Mannar.

Q3. The sun rises two hours earlier in Arunachal Pradesh as compared to Gujarat in the west but the watches show the same time. How does this happen?

Answer: The longitudinal difference between Arunachal Pradesh and Gujarat is about 30° . Due to this, there is a time lag of about two hours between these states. Since Arunachal Pradesh is in the east, the sun rises here first; Compared to Gujarat. Indian Standard Time is taken from the time of Standard Meridian of India and hence clocks appear at the same time in both the states.

Q4. The central location of India at the head of the Indian Ocean is considered of great significance. Why?

Answer: India's central location at the top of the Indian Ocean is considered very important because:

1. This has given India a strategic advantage due to the Trans Indian Ocean routes that connect the countries of Europe to the west and countries in East Asia.
2. It helps India establish closer contacts with West Asia, Africa and Europe from the West Coast and with Southeast and East Asia from the East Coast.
3. The vast coastline and natural harbour have benefited India from ancient times in doing trade and commerce with its neighbouring and distant countries.
4. It has given India a different climate than the rest of the Asian continent.
5. No other country has such a long coastline on the Indian Ocean as India. It is India's dominant position in the Indian Ocean that has named an ocean after it.