

ATOMIC ENERGY EDUCATION SOCIETY

STUDY MATERIAL

CLASS -6 GEOGRAPHY CHAPTER-7

OUR COUNTRY INDIA

MODULE-1

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA OF INDIA

India has an area of about 3.28 million sq. km. The north-south extent from Kashmir to Kanyakumari is about 3,200 km. And the east-west extent from Arunachal Pradesh to Kuchchh is about 2,900 km. India is the seventh largest country of the world. India has a land boundary of about 15,200 km and the total length of the coastline of the mainland, including Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep, is 7,516.6 km. The lofty mountains, the Great Indian Desert, the Northern Plains, the uneven plateau surface and the coasts and islands present a diversity of landforms. There is a great variety in the climate, vegetation, wildlife as well as in the language and culture. India is the second most populous country of the world after China.

LOCATIONAL SETTING

- India is located in the northern hemisphere.
- The Tropic of Cancer ($23^{\circ}30'N$) passes almost halfway through the country.
- From south to north, main land of India extends between $8^{\circ}4'N$ and $37^{\circ}6'N$ latitudes.
- From west to east, India extends between $68^{\circ}7'E$ and $97^{\circ}25'E$ longitudes.
- The local time changes by four minutes for every one degree of longitude.
- The sun rises about two hours earlier in the east (Arunachal Pradesh) than in the west (Gujarat).
- The local time of longitude of $82^{\circ}30'E$ has been taken as the Indian Standard Time.

-This meridian or longitude is also termed as the Standard Meridian of India.

-From Gujarat to Arunachal Pradesh, there is a time lag of two hours. - Hence, time along the Standard Meridian of India ($82^{\circ}30'E$) passing through Mirzapur (in Uttar Pradesh) is taken as the standard time for the whole country.

Time-zone: - Large countries which stretch extensively from east to west do not have a single Standard Time for the whole country. The USA and Canada have seven and six time zones respectively.

Peninsula: - The peninsula is a piece of land that is surrounded by water on three sides

Source:- Class-6, NCERT textbook Geography(The Earth our Habitat)

Chapter-7, Our Country India (page number 47 & 48)

