

**Introduction**

India is located in Southern Asia bordering the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal. Neighboring countries include Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, China, Nepal, and Pakistan.



India has a diverse geology: upland plain (Deccan Plateau) in south, flat to rolling plain along the Ganges river, deserts in west, and Himalayas in north. The government is a federal republic; the chief

of state is the president, and the head of government is the prime minister. India has a market economy in which the prices of goods and services are determined in a free price system. India is a member of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA) and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).



**Location:** Southern Asia

**Capital City:** New Delhi (+5.5 GMT)

**Chief of State:** President Ram Nath Kovind

**Head of Govt.:** Prime Minister Narendra Damodardas Modi

**Currency:** Indian rupee (INR)

**Major Languages:** <p>Hindi 43.6%, Bengali 8%, Marathi 6.9%, Telugu 6.7%, Tamil 5.7%, Gujarati 4.6%, Urdu 4.2%, Kannada 3.6%, Odia 3.1%, Malayalam 2.9%, Punjabi 2.7%, Assamese 1.3%, Maithili 1.1%, other 5.6%</p>

**Primary Religions:** <p>Hindu 79.8%, Muslim 14.2%, Christian 2.3%, Sikh 1.7%, other and unspecified 2%</p>

**Calling Code:** 91

**Voltage:** 230

**Key Websites**

Main Government Page: [india.gov.in](http://india.gov.in)

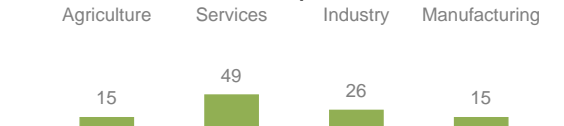
Commerce Ministry: [commerce.gov.in](http://commerce.gov.in)

Investment Promotion Agency: [ibef.org](http://ibef.org)

**Key Economic Facts**

Income Level (by per capita GNI):	Lower Middle Income
Level of Development:	Developing
GDP, PPP (current international \$):	\$9,448.66 billion (2017)
GDP growth (annual %):	6.62% (2017)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$):	\$7,055.55 (2017)
External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US\$):	\$513,208,924,244.20 (2017)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):	15.00% (2017)
Current account balance (BoP, current US\$):	-\$39.07 billion (2017)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):	3.33% (2017)
Labor force, total:	520,194,130 (2017)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):	3.52% (2017)
Imports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$565.59 billion (2017)
Exports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$490.08 billion (2017)

**GDP Composition %**



*\*Although Manufacturing is included in the Industry figures, it is also separately reported because it plays a critical role in economy.*

**Rankings**

Index	Rank
Corruption Perceptions Index	81 / 178
EY Globalization Index	53 / 60
Global Competitiveness Index	58 / 139
Global Enabling Trade Index	102 / 136
Global Manufacturing Competitiveness Index (GMCI)	11 / 40
Global Services Location Index	1 / 55
Index of Economic Freedom	129 / 179
International Logistics Performance Index (LPI)	44 / 160
Inward FDI Potential Index	84 / 139
KOF Index of Globalization	106 / 185
Networked Readiness Index (NRI)	91 / 139
Open Budget Index	53 / 115

**Risk Assessment (Provided by Coface)**

**Country rating: B** - Political and economic uncertainties and an occasionally difficult business environment can affect corporate payment behavior. Corporate default probability is appreciable.

**Business Climate rating: B** - The business environment is mediocre. The availability and the reliability of corporate financial information vary widely. Debt collection can sometimes be difficult. The institutional framework has a few troublesome weaknesses. Intercompany transactions run appreciable risks in the unstable, largely inefficient environments rated B.

**Strengths**

- Diversified growth drivers
- High levels of savings and investment
- Efficient private sector in services
- Moderate level of external debt and comfortable foreign exchange reserves

**Weaknesses**

- Lack of infrastructure and shortcomings in the education system
- Bureaucratic red tape and persistent political tensions
- Net importer of energy resources
- Rising level of private firm indebtedness
- Weak public finances
- Persistent uncertainties over the Kashmir issue

**U.S. Embassy**

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