

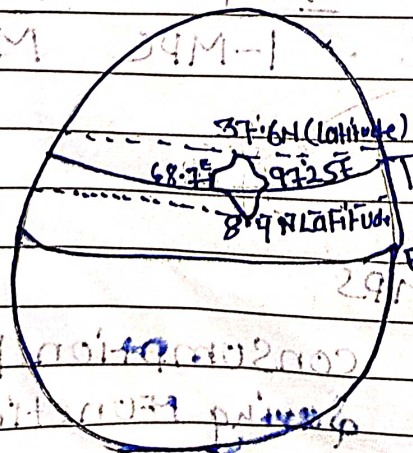
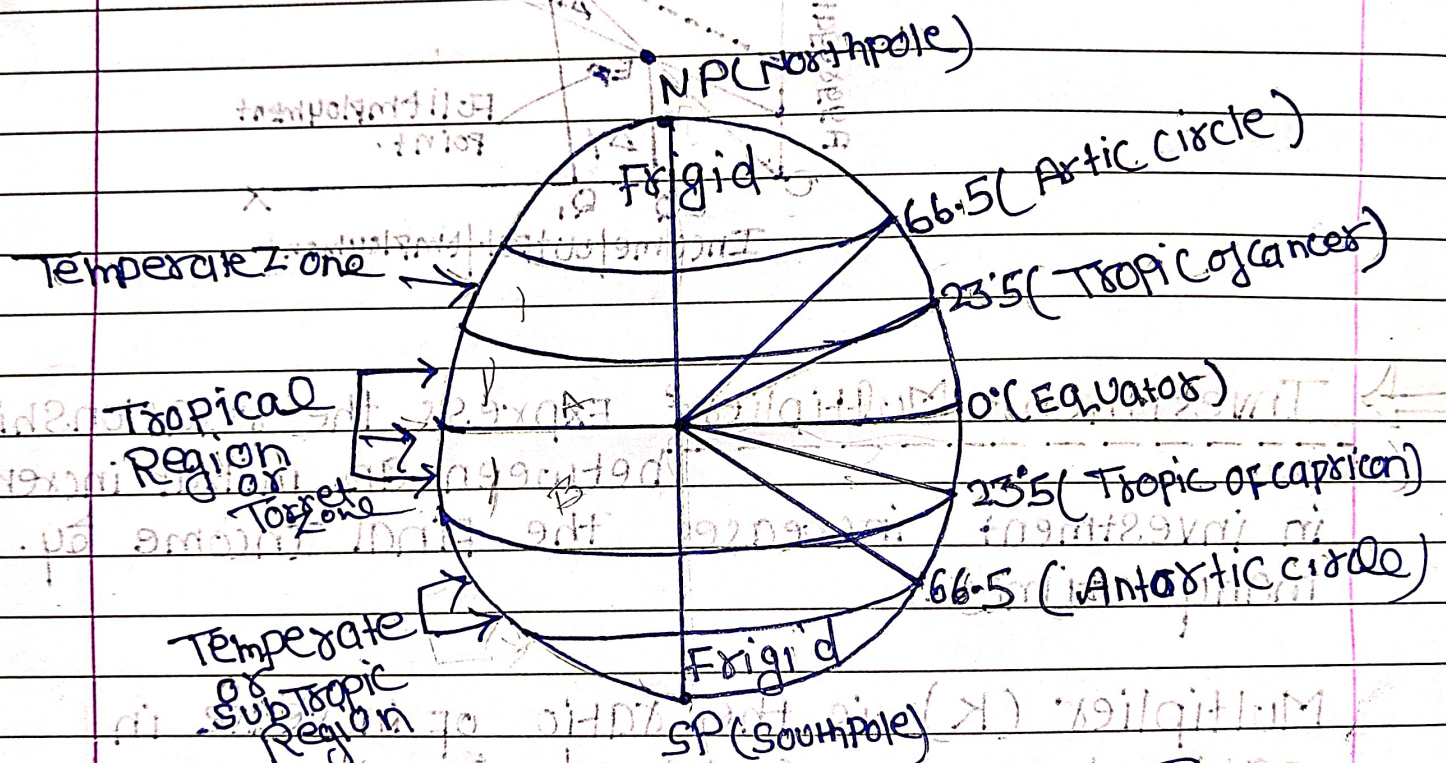
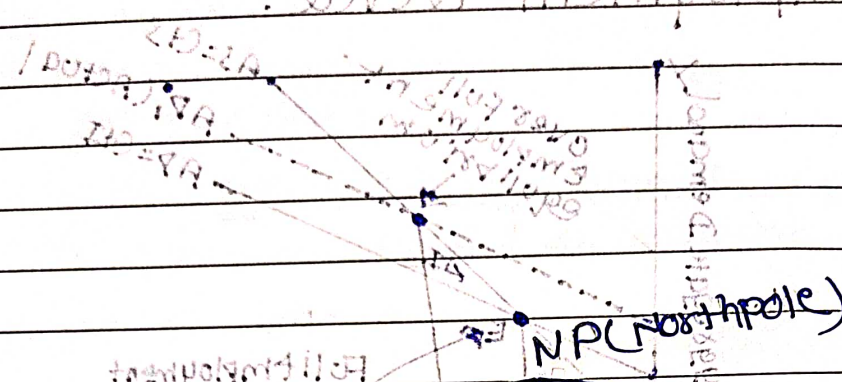
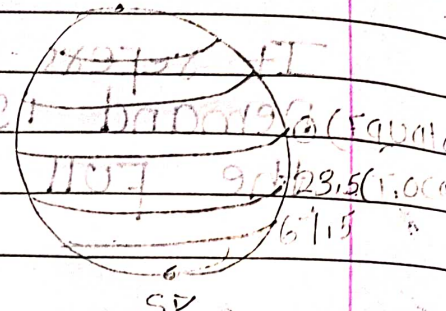
Introduction ÷ India is one of the oldest civilisation and have a remarkable history. After Independence from British rule, It achieved multi-faceted socio-economic progress. Also made a remarkable progress in the field of agriculture, Industry, Technology and overall economic development.

India's Location ÷

- Lies entirely in Northern hemisphere between latitudes $8^{\circ}4'N$ and $37^{\circ}6'N$ and longitudes $68^{\circ}7'E$ and $97^{\circ}25'E$.
- Divided by Tropic of cancer ($23^{\circ}30'N$) in almost two equal parts.
- In Southeast, Andaman and Nicobar Islands lies in the Bay of Bengal.
- In Southwest, Lakshadweep Islands lies in Arabian Sea.

Its Size

- Total area of India is 3.287 million Km^2 which is 2.4% of total area of the world.
- It is seventh largest country in the world in term of landmass.



India lies on Northern Hemisphere.

Latitude } Longitude

- Sri Lanka, Maldives
- NW = Pak, Afghanistan
- N = China, Nepal, Bhutan
- E = Bangladesh, Myanmar

- It has a land boundary of about 15200 km and the length of the coast line of the mainland including Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep island is 7,516.6 km.
- In the northwest, north and north east of India, young Fold mountains bounds it.
- South of about 22° north Latitude, India narrows and finally extend towards the Indian Ocean. It also divides it into two sea, the Arabian Sea on the west and the Bay of Bengal on its east.
- The latitudinal and longitudinal extent of the mainland is about 30° .
- India east-west extent appears to be smaller than the North-South extent.
- The time along the Standard Meridian ($82^{\circ}30'E$) passing through Mirzapur in UP is taken as the Indian Standard Time for whole Country.
- The time gap between Arunachal Pradesh present in the east and Gujarat present in the west is about 2 hours. The latitude extent influences the duration of day and night, as one move from south to north.

⇒ India and the world

- India is located in the centre of the world between East and the West Asia.

- The route across the Indian Ocean which connects the countries of Europe in the west and the countries of East Asia provide a strategic central location to India.
- The Deccan Peninsula* helps India to establish close contact with West Asia, Africa and Europe from the western coast and with Southeast and East Asia from the eastern coast.
- The ocean which is south of India given name Indian Ocean as no other country has a long coastline on the Indian Ocean as India has.
- The Land Routes of India are much older than sea route. Various passes across mountains in the north have provided passages to the ancient traveller as ocean limited such interaction for a long time.
- The Land routes helped India in the exchange of ideas and commodities since ancient times.
- India have propagated the ideas of the Upanishads and the Ramayana, the stories of Panchtantra, the Indian numerals and the decimal system as well as given spices, muslin and other merchandise to different countries.
- Also the influence of Greek sculpture, and the architectural style of dome and minarets from West Asia can be seen in different part of India.

Its neighbours

- India is comprised of 28 states and 8 UT and shares its land boundary with.
 - Northwest: Pakistan and Afghanistan.
 - North: China, Nepal, Bhutan
 - East: Myanmar and Bangladesh
 - South: Sri Lanka and Maldives
- Sri Lanka: is separated from India by a narrow channel of sea formed by the Palk Strait and the Gulf of Mannar.
- Maldives Islands are situated to the south of the Lakshadweep Islands
- A peninsula is a piece of land that is bordered ~~with~~ by water on three sides but connected to mainland on one side.

⇒ Do you know.

- The southernmost point of the Indian union — 'Indira point' got submerged under the sea water in 2004 during the Tsunami.
- Since the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869 India's distance from Europe has been reduced by 7000 km.
- Before 1947, there were two types of states in India — The provinces and The Princely State.



→ Provinces: were ruled directly by British official who were appointed by viceroy.

→ Princely States: were ruled by local hereditary rulers, who acknowledged sovereignty in return for local autonomy. 847 ✓

