India's Neighbouring Countries

India has the third-largest international border in the world. It also serves as the most sensitive border of the world. It varies from the extreme climatic conditions to infiltration.

India is located in the northern hemisphere (latitude) and in the eastern hemisphere (longitude) in the continent of Asia, having the second largest population in the world. 9 countries in total share the international borders with India out of which 7 countries share land borders whereas 2 countries share sea borders.

The length of the land border is 15,106.7 km and the coastline border is 7,516.6 km.

1. Afghanistan

The Indian state which shares its border with this country is Ladakh (PoK). The border length is 106 km. The capital of this country is Kabul. The languages spoken here are – Pashto, Dari. The official currency is Afghan Afghani and there are 34 states in this country.

The country is dependent on agriculture. The prominent religion is Islam. The country has seen the uprising of the Taliban formed as a political dispute.

Some facts about Afghanistan –

| President | Ashraf Ghani | |
|-----------------|--|--|
| Parliament | Wolesi Jirga (Lower House) (250 members) | |
| National Game | Buzkashi | |
| National Bird | Grey Peacock-the Golden eagle | |
| National Fruit | Prunus persica | |
| National Tree | Afghan Pine | |
| National animal | onal animal Snow Leopard | |
| Border | Durand Line | |

2. Bangladesh

There are many states which share its border with this country. The states are – West Bengal, Tripura, Meghalaya, Mizoram, and Assam. The border length is 4096.7 km. The capital of this country is Dhaka. The official language is Bengali.

The currency used here is Bangladeshi taka. There are 8 states in this country. The main industry can be considered as woven textiles, handicrafts, woven carpets, and woolens.

Some facts about Bangladesh -

| President | Abdul Hamid | |
|--------------------|--|--|
| Prime Minister | Sheikh Hasina | |
| Official languages | Bengali | |
| National Game | Volleyball | |
| National Bird | Oriental Magpie-Robin | |
| National Fruit | Jackfruit (Kathal) | |
| National Tree | Mango Tree | |
| National animal | Royal Bengal tiger | |
| Highest peak | Keokradong | |
| Longest river | Surma | |
| Religion | 70.2% Islam, , 12.6% Hinduism | |
| Parliament | Jatiyo Sangsad (Bengali) and House of the Nation(English) (350 Member) | |

3. Bhutan

The states which share border with this country are – West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, and Assam. The border length is 699 km. The capital of this country is Thimphu. The official language is Dzongkha. The country's currency is Ngultrum and has 20 states in the country.

Some facts about Bhutan –

| Name of king | Druk Gyalpo (Dragon King) |
|--------------------------|--|
| Monarch | Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck |
| Prime Minister | Lotay Tshering |
| Upper house | National Council |
| Official languages | Dzongkha |
| State/ Provinces | 20 states |
| Capital and largest city | Thimphu |
| Currency | Ngultrum (BTN) |
| National Animal | Takin |
| National Bird | The Raven |
| National Game | Archery |
| National Tree | Cypress (Tsenden) |
| National Flower | Blue poppy |
| Religion | 77.4% Vajrayana Buddhism, 22.6% Hinduism |
| Lower house | National Assembly (Tshogdu) 55 seats |

4. China

The regions which share border with this country are – Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, and Sikkim. The border length is 3488 km. The Line of Actual Control (LAC) is the borderline shared by India and China. The capital of China is Beijing.

The official language of this country is Mandarin. The currency is the Chinese Yuan. There are 26 states in this country. This country is the most populated country in the world. China is the largest manufacturing hub in the world. The growing economy is rapid.

Some facts about China -

| President | Xi Jinping | |
|-----------------|---|--|
| National Game | Table Tennis | |
| National Bird | Red-crowned crane | |
| National Fruit | Kiwi Fruit | |
| National Tree | Maidenhair Tree | |
| National Flower | Blue water lily | |
| National animal | Giant Panda | |
| Longest river | Yangtze River | |
| Boundaries | Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, and Arunachal Pradesh | |
| Parliament | National Assembly (2980 members) | |
| Border | McMahon Line | |

5. Myanmar

The regions which share the Myanmar border are – Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, and Nagaland. The capital of Myanmar is Yangon. During the British Raj, the prisoners were often sent to Rangoon to serve their prison sentences. The border length is – 1643 km.

The official language is Burmese. The currency is Burmese Kyat. The country is governed by the presidential republic by a bicameral legislature. India is Myanmar's fourth-largest export market.

Some facts about Myanmar –

| President | Win Myint |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Prime Minister | Aung San Suu Kyi |
| National anthem | Kaba Ma Kyei |
| Official languages | Burmese |
| National animal | Tiger |
| National Game | Caneball |

| National Bird | Grey Peacock-Pheasant | |
|------------------|--|--|
| National Fruit | Padauk | |
| National Tree | Green Peafowl | |
| Parliament | The House of Representatives (440 seats) | |
| Highest peak | Hkakabo Razi | |
| Longest river | Irrawaddy River | |
| Famous festivals | Thingyan, Kasone, Nayon | |

6. Nepal

The regions which share the Nepal-India border are – West Bengal, Sikkim, Bihar, Uttarakhand, and Uttar Pradesh. The capital of Nepal is Kathmandu. The border length is 1751 km. The official language is Nepali. The currency is Nepalese Rupee.

There are 7 states in Nepal. Mount Everest, the highest peak in the world is situated in this country. Along with this, 8 of the tallest mountain peaks out of 10 are situated in the country.

Some facts about Nepal -

| President | Bidhya Devi Bhandari |
|--------------------------|---|
| Prime Minister | KP Sharma Oli |
| Official languages | Nepali |
| State/ Provinces | 7 Provinces |
| Capital and largest city | Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte |
| Currency | Nepalese rupee |
| National Game | Volleyball |
| National Bird | Himalayan monal (Lophophorus impejanus) |
| National Animal | Cow |
| National Tree | Ficus religiosa |
| National Flower | Rhododendron |
| Highest peak | Mount Everest |
| Longest river | Karnali |
| Parliament | The National Assembly (275 seats) |

7. Pakistan

The regions which share the Indo-Pak border are – Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan Gujarat, and Ladakh. The border length is 3323 km. The capital of this country is Islamabad. The official language spoken here is Urdu. There are 4 states in this country.

The Line of Control (LoC) is shared between Pakistan and India. Pakistan was initially a part of India but separated on 14th January 1947. Pakistan and India have alarming issues relating to the state of Jammu and Kashmir. The Kargil war of 1991 was caused by Pakistan and India.

Facts about Pakistan -

| President | Arif Alvi |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Prime Minister | Imran Khan |
| Official languages | Urdu, English |
| State/ Provinces | 4 Provinces |
| Capital | Islamabad |
| Currency | Pakistani Rupee |
| National Game | Field Hockey |
| National Bird | Chukar partridge |
| National Fruit | Mango(Summer), Guava (Winter) |
| National Tree | Deodar |
| National Anthem | Qaumi Taranah |
| Highest peak | K2 |
| Longest river | Indus River |
| Religion | Islam |
| Parliament | National Assembly (342 seats) |

8. Sri Lanka

The country shares a sea-line border with India. It is separated by the Gulf of Mannar. The capital of this country is Colombo. The official language spoken here is Sinhala and Tamil. The official currency is Sri Lankan Rupee. There are 9 states in this country. The country is spread over 65,000 sq. km.

The country had a controversial LTTE group which was responsible for assassinating Rajiv Gandhi (former Prime Minister of India). However, diplomatic relations have taken a good path now.

Facts about Sri Lanka –

| President | Gotabaya Rajapaksa |
|----------------|----------------------|
| Prime | Mahindra Rajapaksa |
| Minister | |
| Chief Justice | Jayantha Jayasuriya |
| National | Volleyball |
| Game | |
| National Bird | Ceylon (Jungle Fowl) |
| National Fruit | Jackfruit |
| National Tree | Ironwood |

| National | Blue water lily | |
|---------------|---|--|
| Flower | | |
| Highest peak | Pidurutalagala | |
| Longest river | Mahaweli | |
| Religion | 70.2% Buddhism, 12.6% Hinduism | |
| Parliament | Parliamenthua (225 seats) | |
| Famous | Sinhala and Tamil New Year, Vesak, Poson Festival, Kandy Esala Perahera, Kataragama | |
| festivals | Festival, Vel Festival, Deepavali | |

9. Maldives

This country also shares a sea-line border with India. It lies in the South-West part of the Indian Ocean below the Lakshadweep Island. The capital of this country is Male. The official language is Dhivehi. The currency is Maldivian Rufiyaa.

The predominant religion in the Maldives is Islam. It is one of many coral island countries situated in the Indian Ocean-Arabian Sea area.

Facts about Maldives -

| President | Ibrahim Mohamed Solih |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Parliament | People's Majlis |
| Official languages | Dhivehi |
| State/ Provinces | 1 Only |
| Capital and largest city | Male |
| Currency | Maldivian Rufiyaa |
| National Game | Football |
| National Bird | White-breasted Waterhen |
| National Fruit | Coconut |
| National Tree | Coconut Tree |
| National animal | Yellowfin Tuna |

Conclusion

The neighboring countries of a nation are extremely important due to its trade, diplomatic relations, and harmony. The diplomatic relations are to be maintained for harmony and creating a safe space for the citizens.