

India's States and Diversity

Chapter 5: India, That Is Bharat · Topic 2

Key Concept

India has 28 states and 8 union territories, each with its own state government, capital, and often its own official language.

States were largely organised based on language during the reorganisation of states in 1956, recognising the importance of linguistic identity.

Each state has unique festivals, cuisines, clothing, and art forms, contributing distinct flavours to India's overall cultural diversity.

Understanding India's states and their diversity helps us appreciate how a large, diverse nation can function as one country while celebrating regional uniqueness.

Quick Revision Notes

- India has 28 states and 8 union territories.
- Each state has its own government and capital.
- Many states have their own official language.
- States were reorganised based on language in 1956.
- Each state has unique festivals and cuisines.
- States contribute distinct cultural flavours to India.
- Understanding states helps appreciate national diversity.
- India functions as one nation while celebrating regional uniqueness.

Practice Questions

- 1 Name five states of India and their capitals.
- 2 Research the reorganisation of states in 1956.
- 3 Find a unique festival or cuisine from a state you don't know much about.
- 4 Discuss why language was important in state formation.
- 5 Create a chart of five states and their unique features.
- 6 Discuss how your state contributes to India's diversity.