

Literacy: *definition:* age 15 and over can read and write; *total population:* 61%;
male: 73.4%; *female:* 47.8% (2001 census)

Languages: Hindi 41%, Bengali 8.1%, Telugu 7.2%, Marathi 7%, Tamil 5.9%, Urdu 5%, Gujarati 4.5%, Kannada 3.7%, Malayalam 3.2%, Oriya 3.2%, Punjabi 2.8%, Assamese 1.3%, Maithili 1.2%, other 5.9%

Urbanization: urban population is 29% of total population (2008)

Rate of urbanization: 2.4% annual rate of change (2005-10 est.)

Administrative divisions:

28 states: Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal

7 union territories: Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, Delhi, Lakshadweep, Puducherry

Executive branch: *Head of government:* Prime Minister Manmohan Singh (Congress Party, since May 2004); *Chief of state:* President Pratibha Patil (since July 2007); Vice President Hamid Ansari (since August 2007)

Elections: prime minister elected by parliamentary members of the majority party following legislative elections; election last held July 2007; next to be held July 2012

Legislative branch: bicameral Parliament (*Sansad*) consists of the Council of States (*Rajya Sabha*), no more than 250 members; and the People's Assembly (*Lok Sabha*) consisting of 545 seats

Judicial branch: Supreme Court, judges appointed by the president and remain until age 65

Economy: GDP: real growth rate 7.4% (2009 est.) [9% est. in 2007; 8.5% in 2006]

GDP: per capita, purchasing power parity: \$3,100 (2009 est.) [up from \$2,900 in 2008, \$2,800 in 2007]

GDP composition by sector: *agriculture:* 17%; *industry:* 28.2%; *services:* 54.9% (2009 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices): 10.9% (2009 est.) [8.3% est. in 2008]

Population below poverty line: 25% (2007 est.)

Household income or consumption by percentage share:

lowest 10%: 3.6%; *highest 10%:* 31.1% (2005)

Labor force: 467 million (2009) [down from 523.5 million, 2008]

Labor force by occupation (2009):

agriculture 52% [60% in 2003]

industry 14% [12% in 2003]

services 34% [28% in 2003]

Telephones (landlines): 36.76 million (2010)

Telephones (mobile cellular): 545 million

[up markedly from 296.08 million in 2008 and 26.154 million in 2003]

Internet users: 81 million (2008)