Development Dynamics: India

India is a **developing country** that has been influenced by **globalisation**, especially in terms of its economic development. However, globalisation has also had negative effects on India.

Significance of India

India is a **rapidly developing nation** with growing global significance. Currently, it is **one of four emerging economies** (out of Brazil, Russia, India or China) that could potentially overtake the USA in terms of its global importance in the future.
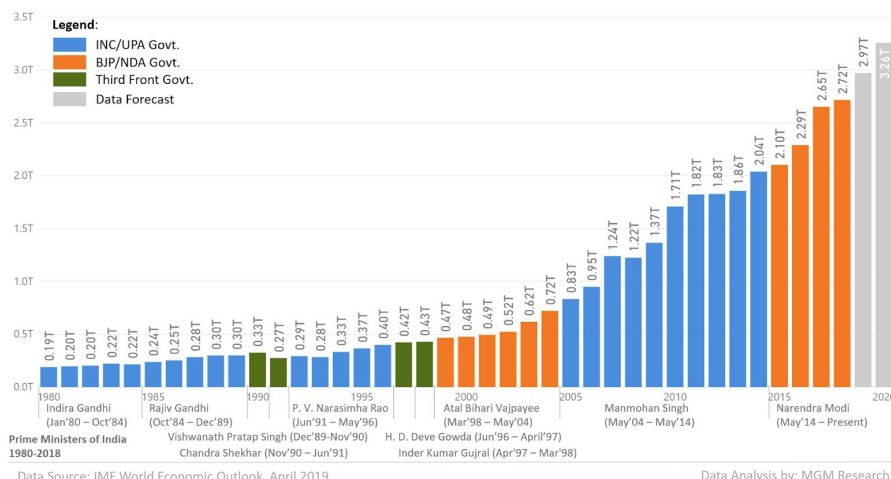
Social	Political	Culture
India has the **second largest population in the world** - 1.39 billion people. By 2030, seven of India's cities are projected to have a population greater than **10 million people** (classed as a megacity). There are already **five megacities** in India: New Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkhata, Bengaluru and Chennai. *Mumbai - Source: dhakatribune* **74.4%** of India's population is **literate** (able to read and write), though **urban literacy rates are higher than rural rates**. Some rural villages can be very isolated from **services** and may have no access to **education**, so **agricultural work** is usually the main source of income here.	India's government is an active member in many **international organisations**, including the UN and G20. India takes part in **peacekeeping missions** in developing nations. *Indian UN peacekeeping - Source: IndiaTimes* India has the largest number of voters in the world, so is (arguably) a very good **democracy**! India tries to maintain good relations with its neighbouring countries, but it does have political disagreements. For example, India has deployed the **military** to settle border disagreements with China.	India's culture is rich and distinct, causing **10 million tourists** to visit every year! India is home to the **Taj Mahal**, one of the seven wonders of the world. It is a huge tourist destination. *Taj Mahal - Source: Travel Channel* Bollywood (Hindi cinema) is one of the **largest film industries** in the world, making twice as many films as Hollywood. India is the birthplace of **four religions** - Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism, though the majority of people practice Hinduism. Islam and Christianity are also practised. Religion is very important to India's culture.

India's Economy

India GDP 1980-2020
GDP in current prices (trillions of US dollars)

Legend:
- INC/UPA Govt.
- BJP/NDA Govt.
- Third Front Govt.
- Data Forecast

Prime Ministers of India 1980-2018

Indira Gandhi (Jan'80 – Oct'84)
Rajiv Gandhi (Oct'84 – Dec'89)
Vishwanath Pratap Singh (Dec'89-Nov'90)
Chandra Shekhar (Nov'90 – Jun'91)
P. V. Narasimha Rao (Jun'91 – May'96)
H. D. Deve Gowda (Jun'96 – April'97)
Inder Kumar Gujral (Apr'97 – Mar'98)
Atal Bihari Vajpayee (Mar'98 – May'04)
Manmohan Singh (May'04 – May'14)
Narendra Modi (May'14 – Present)

Data Source: IMF World Economic Outlook, April 2019   Data Analysis by: MGM Research

Source: mgmresearch.com

India has the **fifth largest economy** in the world, with **GDP** (Gross Domestic Product) rising steadily for the last twenty years (GDP = the value of any goods, produce or services made or conducted in a country).

This increased rate of economic growth is largely due to **India's trade** becoming more globalised; more businesses are trading **internationally** and India's lifestyle is **influenced** by other countries' lifestyles and technology. See below for the many ways that India is becoming globally involved:

Globalisation

Globalisation can affect many different aspects of life in India, but it especially **benefits** the social and economic aspects of life. However, globalisation can come at a **cost** to some communities and the **environment**. There are many examples of globalisation in India (you should try to learn at least three examples, including both positive and negative effects)

- India is home to many **international companies' offices**, especially **call centres** and customer support. Businesses, such as **BT, Microsoft** and **Barclays** have hired other Indian companies to set up their customer support call centres. This is called **outsourcing**, and India is a good choice for many **TNCs** (transnational companies) to outsource work to because:

  - India's second most spoken language is **English**, so many graduates are well-spoken in English and so can communicate easily with customers.

  - India has a **lower minimum wage** than the UK, so businesses can reduce costs.

  - There is a large **working population** in India, especially young people moving from the rural areas.

Source: Hindu Stan Times

- TNCs are investing in **shops and restaurants** in India, since there is a growing population of working and middle class people who they can sell their goods to.

  Some TNCs have even tailored their products to entice more sales in India; this is called **glocalisation**. For example, McDonalds have **removed all beef produce** as Hindus do not eat beef and have created some **Indian inspired food** - The Maharaja Mac, Green Chilli Aloo Naan and the Paneer Passion.

Source: India.com

- Some TNCs have **exploited workers** in India by exposing them to **unsafe conditions** and not protecting **workers' rights**.

  Especially in factories, workers may be **poorly paid** and work **long hours with few breaks**. To reduce the business' costs, some factories are constructed cheaply and may not follow **building regulations**, putting workers at major risk. This lack of investment and care has resulted in **accidents**.

  For example, 4 people died when a **roof collapsed** on a factory in New Delhi in December 2020, and **over 20 people died** in North India when there was an **explosion** in an illegal fireworks factory in 2019.

Source: Barkha Textiles

- TNCs create **job opportunities** in cities, which attracts young people to migrate there from rural locations. Therefore globalisation in the cities of India is causing **migration** from **rural to urban areas**. This has mixed impacts for India:

Benefits	Costs
Some young people don't wish to live and work in rural areas, due to **limited infrastructure**, poor internet and the self-reliant, subsistence farming lifestyle (you grow what you eat). Rural India relies heavily on **agriculture** for jobs and income. If you don't wish to be a farmer, there are few alternatives for jobs in the rural regions. *Source: pubindia.wordpress.com* By moving to the city, young people can attend further education - **universities** - so they can earn a higher wage in a skilled job.	Rural-urban migration can leave rural areas without a young, working population, meaning older generations **cannot retire** from their work. There may be a **shortage of farmers** in the future, and parents may be left without children to **care for them** in their old age. Many migrants come to the city with little savings and **cannot afford the price of living** whilst looking for work. With no other option many end up **homeless**, leading to the growth of **urban shanty towns** and slums which are often unsafe to live in. *Source: Marcus Limnafa*

- The **urbanisation** of India's cities is resulting in the **loss of natural greenfield land** and destruction of the environment. Green spaces are now being built on at a rapid rate.

  - In Bengaluru, **19 lakes** have been emptied, filled or built over as the city expands.

  - In many cities, **sewage** from informal housing is emptied into local rivers, polluting the water.

  - Overall, the **biodiversity** within cities has greatly reduced as concrete covers most land, and habitats are lost to housing or industry development.

Source: Counterview.org