

DISCOVER INDIA – WORD LIST

- **absorb** = take with them
- **achieve** = get, reach
- **afford** = to have enough money to buy something
- **agree** = to say yes
- **agriculture** = farming
- **annually** = every year
- **automation** = the use of computers and machines to do a simple job
- **average** = normal, regular
- **based on** = to come from
- **basis** = starting point
- **beef** = meat from a cow
- **belief** = religious idea
- **billion** = a thousand million
- **boom** = increase in business
- **border** = limit, end
- **broad** = wide
- **bureaucracy** = administration
- **call centre** = an office where people answer customers' questions or sell things by using a telephone instead of meeting people in person
- **capital** = the most important city of a country; the government works here
- **capitalist** = when a country's businesses and companies are controlled by private people
- **cart** = a vehicle with two or four wheels and no roof; it is often pulled by a horse and used for transporting things
- **cattle** = cows
- **century** = a hundred years
- **ceremony** = social or religious event
- **claim** = to state that you have the right to take something
- **collide** = crash into
- **commercial** = business
- **common** = together with
- **compared to** = to see how two or more things are different
- **consistent** = to happen in the same way; constant
- **constantly** = all the time
- **contraception** = methods of stopping a woman from having a baby ; birth control
- **contrast** = differences
- **convince** = to make someone believe in something
- **cotton** = cloth or thread made from the white hair of the cotton plant
- **crop** = plant like wheat or rice that farmers grow as food
- **decade** = period of ten years
- **decrease** = go down, fall
- **defeat** = to win against someone
- **delta** = area of low land where a river divides itself and spreads into many smaller rivers near the sea
- **demand** = here: what the country needs
- **densely populated** = many people live on a small area of land
- **designed** = planned
- **develop** = grow
- **developed world** = rich countries
- **direction** = route, path
- **disaster** = very bad event, that can hurt or kill people
- **disease** = illness
- **divide** = separate, split
- **dominate** = control, influence
- **doubtful** = unsure, not certain
- **drift** = float, move slowly
- **economy** = the relationship between production, trade and money in a country
- **electricity** = power that is carried in wires and cables and is used to give us light and heat or to make machines work
- **exclude** = not allowed to take part in
- **expand** = grow
- **experience** = undergo
- **exploit** = to use minerals and raw materials for business and industry
- **explorer** = someone who travels to an unknown place to find out more about it
- **extend** = reach
- **faction** = party, group
- **family planning** = controlling the number of children that are born
- **fertile** = here; land that can produce good crops
- **fertilizer** = a substance that is put into the soil to make plants grow
- **flood** = to cover with water
- **foothills** = small hills below a group of high mountains
- **force** = make people do something
- **foreign** = from another country
- **former times** = in the past
- **fossil fuel** = material, like coal, oil or gas that is used to produce energy; it was created by dead animals and plants millions of years ago
- **gap** = space; difference

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- **GDP = gross domestic product** = total value of all the goods and services that a country produces in one year
- **goods** = products
- **government** = the people who rule a country
- **grant** = give, offer
- **growth** = increase; when something goes up
- **handicraft** = activity, like making baskets, in which you use your hands to make objects that you can sell
- **height** = how high something is
- **hire** = to give someone work for a short time
- **homeless** = without a place to live
- **hybrid crop** = new plant that is produced from two different types
- **improve** = to make better
- **in contrast to** = compared with
- **income** = the money that someone gets for the work they do
- **increase** = to go up
- **independence** = freedom
- **influence** = power
- **invest** = to spend money in order to make a profit from it
- **iron ore** = rock or earth that has iron in it
- **irrigation** = when water is brought to farming land because it is too dry
- **IT = information technology** = the study of computers and how information gets from one place to another
- **jewelry** = small things that you wear for decoration, like rings or necklaces
- **jute** = thin threads from a plant used to make rope and cloth
- **keep up** = here: continue producing the amount needed
- **kingdom** = a country ruled by a king or queen
- **labourer** = worker
- **limited** = not very great in amount or number
- **mainland** = the main part of a country, without the islands
- **major** = very important
- **majority** = most of the people in a group
- **means of transport** = the way people and goods travel from one place to another
- **medical conditions** = health care; doctors, hospitals etc
- **merchant** = person who buys and sells things
- **mining** = action of digging raw materials and minerals out of the earth
- **minority** = small group of people within a much larger group
- **moisture** = wet air
- **mosque** = building in which Muslims pray
- **nationalist movement** = when people start getting together and fighting for independence
- **navigator** = person on a ship who says in which direction to go
- **network** = system
- **nuclear power station** = a building that produces electricity by splitting atoms.
- **official** = formal
- **originally** = at first
- **overcrowded** = with too many people
- **overpopulation** = when too many people live on a small area of land
- **pace** = speed
- **peak** = highest part of a mountain
- **pearl** = a small white object that forms inside an oyster; it is a valuable jewel
- **peasant** = poor farmer, mostly without any land
- **peninsula** = piece of land that has water on three sides
- **plains** = large area of flat land
- **plant** = factory
- **plateau** = area of land that is higher than the land around it
- **plough** = to turn over the earth so that farmers can plant seeds
- **poisonous** = containing a substance that can kill or hurt you
- **pollute** = to make dirty
- **population** = the people who live in a country
- **populous** = full of people
- **poverty** = the situation of being poor
- **poverty line** = when a person does not have enough money to buy the things they need to live proportion = number, share, part
- **present day** = now, today
- **priest** = a man who has a high rank in a religion
- **privilege** = special right; freedom to do something
- **process** = action, movement
- **provide** = give

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- **public fountain** = place where water, which everyone can drink, comes out
- **quest** = long search for something that is difficult to find
- **range** = here: line of mountains
- **reach** = get to
- **receive** = get
- **regard as** = to look at or think about something as
- **relations** = the way countries treat each other
- **remain** = stay
- **reputation** = the opinion that people have or what they think about something
- **research** = to study a subject in order to find out new facts about it
- **resources** = raw materials
- **rickshaw** = small vehicle in southeast Asia, pulled by a bicycle or a person; it usually can carry one or two passengers
- **roam** = wander around, without knowing where to go
- **ruler** = person who governs or controls a country
- **rural** = countryside
- **sacred** = holy
- **sea level** = the average height of the sea, used as a standard to measure other heights
- **service sector** = part of the economy that offers a service instead of producing something; teachers, hospital workers, policemen etc... belong to the service sector
- **settle down** = stay in a place in order to live and work there
- **shortage** = not enough
- **skill** = talent, the ability to do something well
- **snow-capped** = covered with snow
- **society** = people in general
- **soldier** = person who fights for their country in a war
- **sorghum** = seeds of a crop grown in tropical countries
- **source** = basis
- **split up** = divide
- **spread** = to extend from one place to another
- **stable** = calm, safe
- **standard of living** = how much money you have and what you can afford to buy with it
- **state-owned** = belonging to the government
- **sterilization** = an operation that stops a man from producing and a woman from getting babies
- **stretch** = extend from one place to another
- **struggle** = fight
- **subcontinent** = part of a continent
- **sugar cane** = tall tropical plant with thick stems from which sugar is made
- **surpass** = overtake; be bigger than
- **tense** = angry, worried, bad
- **thriving** = booming, very successful
- **trade** = buying and selling things
- **trading post** = place that is set up for merchants and other people to buy and sell goods
- **treat** = take care of
- **unemployment** = when people are out of work
- **untouchable** = someone you should not put your hand on
- **valley** = area of lower land between two mountains, usually with a river flowing through it
- **valuable** = worth
- **vast** = great, very large
- **vehicle** = machine that is used to transport people and goods from one place to another
- **victim** = here: person who was hurt in the accident
- **warrior** = brave soldier
- **wheat** = the grain that white bread is made from, or the plant that it grows on
- **widespread** = common, very popular
- **winds its way** = flows in curves and bends