

COUNTRY GUIDE

INDIA



One of the most diverse and fertile countries, with a cultural and culinary influence spanning the world over, India was once the “Jewel in the Crown” of the British Empire. Gaining its independence in 1947, India is today the fastest-growing trillion-dollar economy in the world and ranks as the fifth-largest overall, overtaking the United Kingdom and France. Despite the social and political challenges it faces as a society, India’s economic strength lies in a limited dependence on exports, high saving rates, a young population, and a rising middle class.

AGRICULTURE

While agriculture has traditionally made up the largest share of India’s GDP, it has been slowly giving way to emerging and modern industries, and currently contributes about 17% of the GDP. Despite this, agriculture and the food industries of India still employ about 50% of the country’s population.

FINTECH

India is among the fastest-growing fintech markets in the world. It has the highest fintech adoption rate globally (87%), significantly higher than the global average of 64%. Key government initiatives like UPI and Digital India have aided in this development.

SERVICES SECTOR

The services sector has been a major source of growth and has become the backbone of the Indian economy, contributing over 60% of the country’s GDP. It accounts for about two-thirds of India’s output and employs less than one-third of its labor force. Capitalizing on its large educated English-speaking population, it is a major exporter of information technology services, business outsourcing services, and software workers.

CAPITAL MARKETS

As an emerging market, India is fast becoming an important engine of global growth. With steady GDP growth and a stable financial market, India represents a significant opportunity for foreign investors.

TELECOM

India has one of the largest mobile markets in the world, second only to China. The industry has recently seen significant growth over the last years primarily driven by affordable tariffs, wider availability, ease in regulation, and an evolving consumption pattern of its over 1.2bn subscribers.



Geography

Location: The Indian sub-continent is located in Southern Asia, bordering the Arabian Sea to the west and the Bay of Bengal to the east. It borders Nepal in the north between Pakistan and Burma and extends from the Himalayan Mountains to the Indian Ocean in the south.



Area: 3,287,263 sq. km

Timezone: India Standard Time (IST) GMT+5:30



Population

1,326,093,247



Language(s)

Hindi is the most widely spoken language, but English is mostly used for national, political, and commercial communication.



Economy

From traditional village farming to modern agriculture, and a wide range of modern industries and services



Capital city

New Delhi



Currency

Indian Rupee (INR)



Political structure

Federal Parliamentary Republic



Legal system

Common Law

This information is not intended to provide legal advice or serve as a substitute for legal research to address specific situations.

28 Liberty Street | New York, NY 10005 | 855.444.5358 | ctcorporation.com/global-corporate-services

Main Types of Legal Entities

	PRIVATE LIMITED COMPANY	LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP	BRANCH OFFICE
Share capital			
Minimum paid-up	No minimum required	No minimum required	About 100,000 USD
Maximum authorized	N/A	N/A	N/A
Usual currency	Indian Rupee (INR)	Indian Rupee (INR)	Indian Rupee (INR)
Permitted currencies	INR	INR	INR
Domiciliation			
Registered address	Local registered office required	Local registered office required	Local registered office required
Directors			
Minimum number	Must have a board of directors with at least two directors appointed	Must have at least two partners (owners)	One
Minimum local	One	One	Local representative required
Corporate directors	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Statutory			
Annual filing	Annual returns	Annual returns	Annual returns
Company secretary	Required	Required	Required
Annual general meeting (AGM)	Required	Required	N/A
Beneficial owner reporting	For private, non-listed companies it is not publicly disclosed	Publicly disclosed	Publicly disclosed
Re-domiciliation	Not permitted, unless by way of merger	Not permitted, unless by way of merger	N/A
Financial administration			
Audit required	Required	Required, if contributions exceed INR2.5 million or annual turnover exceeds INR4 million	Required
Filing of annual return	Reports and accounts must be filed annually.	Reports and accounts must be filed annually.	Reports and accounts must be filed annually.
Tax			
Tax rates	25%	30%	25%
VAT	18%	18%	18%
Tax treaties	Negotiated with over 100+ countries	Negotiated with over 100+ countries	N/A
Other taxes	Social security, minimum alternative tax (MAT), stamp duty, etc.	Social security, stamp duty, etc.	Social security, minimum alternative tax (MAT), stamp duty, etc.
Government fees			
Registry fee	0 INR for small companies (additional requirements may apply)	N/A	N/A
License fee	Depending on the business activity, number and salary of employees	Depending on the business activity, number and salary of employees	Depending on the business activity, number and salary of employees

This information is not intended to provide legal advice or serve as a substitute for legal research to address specific situations.

28 Liberty Street | New York, NY 10005 | 855.444.5358 | ctcorporation.com/global-corporate-services

Main Types of Legal Entities

	PRIVATE LIMITED COMPANY	LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP	BRANCH OFFICE
Incorporation process			
Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Register with the Registrar of Companies (ROC) ➤ Directors and auditors appointed ➤ Director Identification Number (DIN) and Digital Signature ➤ Registered office ➤ Certificate of Incorporation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Register with the Registrar of Companies (ROC) ➤ Directors and auditors appointed ➤ Director Identification Number (DIN) and Digital Signature ➤ Registered office ➤ Certificate of Incorporation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Request approval of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to establish branch (only specified activities permitted, cannot undertake any manufacturing activity in the country) ➤ Register with the Registrar of Companies (ROC) and file audited accounts ➤ Articles of Incorporation of Parent Company and letter stating reason for office in India ➤ Local registered office and details of directors and representatives ➤ Expected funding for office operations
Time	2-6 weeks	2-6 weeks	2-6 weeks
Other			
Are shelf corporations available?	Not widely used	No	N/A

This information is not intended to provide legal advice or serve as a substitute for legal research to address specific situations.

28 Liberty Street | New York, NY 10005 | 855.444.5358 | ctcorporation.com/global-corporate-services

CT Service Offerings – India



Global Transactional Services

- Due diligence searches
 - Certificate of Good Standing (or equivalent)
 - Health check services
 - Liens/charges
 - Litigation
 - Bankruptcy
- Document retrieval
 - Articles of Incorporation
 - Memorandum of Association
 - Chamber of Commerce Extract
- Authentications & legalizations
- Board changes
- Company searches
- Incorporations
- Liquidation of entities
- Process agent appointments
- Translation services

Global Entity Management

- Corporate secretarial services
- Annual compliance
 - Statutory filings
 - Annual board resolution drafting
 - Corporate minute book management
- Domiciliation/registered address
- Director services and legal representation

To learn more about how CT can help you better manage your **global compliance needs**, contact a CT representative at **855.444.5358 (toll-free U.S.)**.

ctcorporation.com/global-corporate-services