

Indonesia: Brief facts for the UPSC Exam

Indonesia is a transcontinental country located between Indian Ocean and Pacific Ocean. India has a long-standing relationship with Indonesia for almost two millennia marked by cultural exchange and ancient maritime links. Thus it is quite prudent for aspirants to know a little bit about this nation.

Aspirants would find the contents of this article very helpful in the IAS Exam.

Interesting Facts about Indonesia

Some of the interesting facts about Indonesia are listed below.

1. It is the World's largest Island Country with more than 17,000 islands.
2. It has the 4th largest population in the world.
3. It is the country having highest Muslim population, India is ranked at 2nd position for the same.
4. World's most populous island in the world is Java, it is in Indonesia.
5. Indonesia was one of the founding members of the Non Aligned Movement along with India.

How is the Relation between India and Indonesia?

Indians have visited Indonesia since ancient times, and ancient Indonesian (Austronesian people) have embarked in maritime trade in Southeast Asian seas and Indian Ocean. The Ancient Indians spread Hinduism and many other aspects of Indian culture including the Sanskrit and Brahmi Script. The trace of Indian influences is most evident in great numbers of Sanskrit loanwords in Indonesian languages.

1. Both countries have agreed to establish a strategic relationship.
2. India's Andaman and Nicobar Islands share a maritime boundary with Indonesia.
3. India and Indonesia were among the 5 founders of the Non Aligned Movement.
4. India has established better economic ties with Indonesia through the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) signed with ASEAN (Association of SouthEast Asian Nations).
5. In the Indonesian Dance and Drama traditions, Ramayana is a major theme.
6. On the sidelines of the G20 summit in 2019 held at Osaka, India and Indonesia set an ambitious target of increasing the bilateral trade between 2 nations, to \$ 50 billion by 2025.
7. In the year 2016 Trade between India and Indonesia stood at \$ 12.9 billion which rose to \$ 18.13 billion in the year 2017 and it stood at \$ 21.11 billion in the year 2018-19.
8. In order to increase the trade and reduce the trade deficit, Indonesia has recently agreed to import rice, and sugar from India.

9. India has offered a level playing field to Indonesia in the import of palm oils which were earlier skewed towards Malaysia.

Which Country Colonized Indonesia?

Indonesia was a colony of Dutch for many years. They attained freedom with the invasion of Japan in the year 1945 during World War 2. However, Dutch recognized the independence of Indonesia in the year 1949, in the face of international pressure.

Which are the Neighboring Countries of Indonesia?

Indonesia is the largest Southeast Asian nation. It shares land boundaries with the following nations.

1. Papua New Guinea
2. East Timor
3. Malaysia.

It share maritime boundaries with

1. Singapore
2. Philippines
3. Vietnam
4. Palau
5. Australia

The above details would help candidates prepare for UPSC 2020.