



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
Only IAS Academy by Grandson of "Per.uthalaivar Kamarajar"

MAP OF THE DAY 30-04-26

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Kamaraj IAS Academy

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MAP OF THE DAY BHARAT

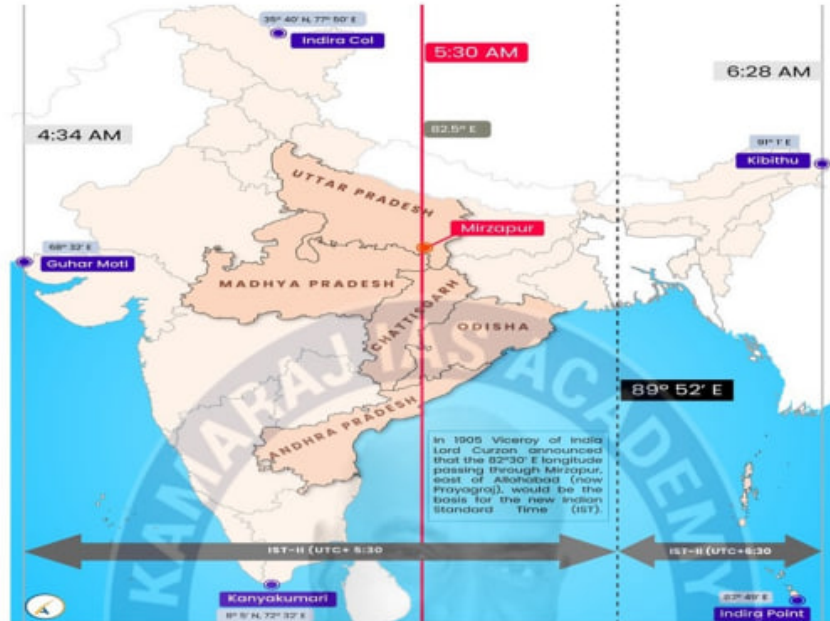
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KAMARAJ K
HONORARY DIRECTOR



Thursday, 30 April 2026



Indian Standard Time (IST)

Introduction

- Indian Standard Time (IST) is the official time followed throughout India.
- Its time offset is **UTC +5:30**.
- India does not observe Daylight Saving Time (DST) or seasonal time changes.
- However, DST was used for short periods during the **1962 Sino-Indian War** and the **1965 and 1971 Indo-Pak wars**.
- In military and aviation time notation, (Echo-Star) represents IST.

Basis of Indian Standard Time

- Indian Standard Time is calculated on the basis of **82.5° East longitude**.
- This longitude passes near **Mirzapur**, close to **Allahabad (Prayagraj)** in the state of Uttar Pradesh.
- The longitudinal difference between Mirzapur and the Royal Observatory Greenwich equals a time difference of **5 hours 30 minutes**.

Time Determining Institution

- Earlier, the clock tower at the Allahabad Observatory calculated local time.
- At present, the National Physical Laboratory in New Delhi is responsible for official timekeeping in India.

History of IST

- Before the arrival of railways in the **1850s**, most Indian cities followed local time.
- Each city determined its own time according to the position of the sun.
- With the expansion of railways and communication services, the need for a uniform time zone was felt.

Bombay and Calcutta Time

- The two major presidencies of British India were **Mumbai (then**

- The local time of these cities was administratively important.
- Nearby provinces and princely states gradually adopted these time standards.

Telegraph and Railway Time

- In the 19th century, clocks were synchronized through telegraph signals.
- Railway headquarters sent daily time signals to synchronize clocks.
- Later, railways adopted **Madras Time** as an intermediate time between the two major zones.
- It was also known as **Railway Time**.

International Meridian Conference of 1884

- The International Meridian Conference established uniform time zones worldwide.
- India received two time zones:
- Calcutta Time – **90° East longitude**
- Bombay Time – **75° East longitude**

Time Difference

- Calcutta Time: **5 hours 30 minutes 21 seconds ahead of GMT**
- Bombay Time: **4 hours 51 minutes ahead of GMT**

Port Blair Mean Time

- The British government established an additional time zone called **Port Blair Mean Time**.
- It was applicable to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- It was fixed **49 minutes 51 seconds ahead of Madras Time**.

Establishment of a Single Indian Standard Time

- British India officially adopted a standard time zone in **1905**.
- 82.5° East longitude** was selected as the central meridian of India.
- This rule came into effect on **1 January 1906**.
- It was also applied to **Ceylon (present-day Sri Lanka)**.

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MAP OF THE DAY WORLD

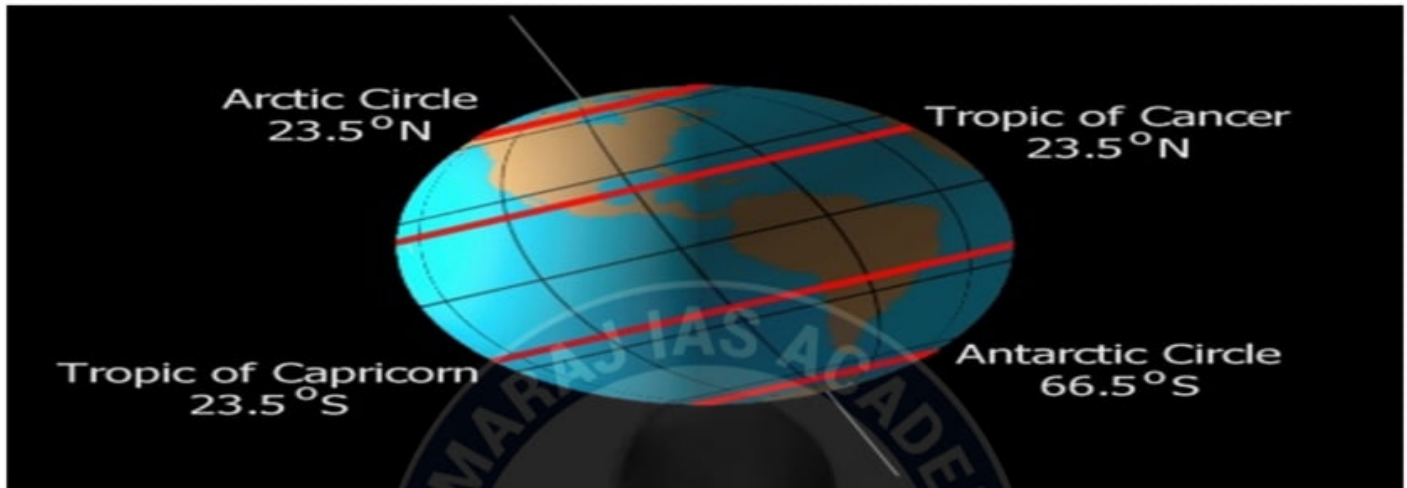
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Arctic and Antarctic Circles

Introduction

- Some major lines of latitude on Earth are very important for understanding climate, seasons, and distribution of sunlight.
- Among them, the **Arctic Circle** and **Antarctic Circle** hold special significance.
- These two circles define the boundaries of polar regions.
- In these areas, the duration of day and night is very different from normal regions.

Arctic Circle

- The Arctic Circle is located in the **Northern Hemisphere**.
- It lies at **66½° North latitude**.
- It marks the boundary of the **Northern Polar Region**.
- **Regions It Passes Through**
- Norway, Sweden, Finland, Russia, United States, Canada, Greenland, Iceland (near region)

Characteristics

- During summer, the **Midnight Sun** is visible (continuous daylight).
- During winter, there is a **Polar Night**, where the sun does not rise for several days.
- Temperatures are extremely low.
- **Tundra vegetation** is found here.

Antarctic Circle

- The Antarctic Circle is located in the **Southern Hemisphere**.
- It lies at **66½° South latitude**.
- It defines the boundary of the **Southern Polar Region**.

Regions It Passes Through

- Mainly through the continent of Antarctica and the Southern Ocean.
- **Characteristics**
- In summer, the sun remains visible for several continuous days.
- In winter, there is a long period of darkness.
- **It is the coldest region on Earth.**
- Most of the surface is covered with thick ice.
- The Earth is tilted at an angle of **23½° on its axis**.
- Due to this tilt, polar regions experience unequal day and night durations.
- $90^\circ - 23\frac{1}{2}^\circ = 66\frac{1}{2}^\circ$, which is why both circles are located at 66½° latitude.

Climatic Importance

- **Arctic Region**
- Relatively less cold due to oceanic influence.
- Contains frozen seas, icebergs, and limited biodiversity.
- **Antarctic Region**
- Extremely cold due to being a landmass covered with ice.
- Strong cold winds and thick ice sheets.

Economic Importance

- **Arctic Region**
- **Rich in oil, natural gas, and fish resources.**
- Possibility of new sea trade routes due to melting ice.
- **Antarctic Region**
- **A major center for scientific research.**
- Mineral resources may exist, but exploitation is restricted.

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