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RAJASTHAN
at a glance

**ANNUAL
SPECIAL BOOK**

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Rajasthan: An Introduction




Rajasthan which is known for its Thar desert in India and is also known as ‘Land of Kings’, is India’s **largest state by area**. Rajasthan covers an area of 3,42,239 sq. km, which is 10.40% of the country’s geographical area. According to the Indian State of Forest Report 2021, the forest cover in Rajasthan is 16,654.96 sq. km, which accounts for 4.87% of the state’s geographical area. Currently, **5 National Parks, 25 Wildlife Sanctuaries, and 11 Conservation Reserves** constitute the Protected Area Network of Rajasthan, covering 2.92% of the state’s geographical area.



There are **4 Project Tiger Reserves** (Ranthambore, Sariska, Mukundra Hills, and Ramgarh Vishdhari) and **2 Ramsar Sites** (Keoladeo Ghana Sanctuary and Sambhar Lake) in Rajasthan. The state is located in the **northwest** part of the country and is home to cultural diversity. Its features include the ruins of Indus Valley Civilization, Temples, Forts and Fortresses and Bawdi in almost every city. The early history of Rajasthan includes some of the great rulers prominent among them were Prithviraj Chauhan, Emperor Hem Chandra Vikramaditya, Maharana Udai Singh, Maharana Pratap, Raja Maan Singh and others.





Basic Facts

Item	Description
Formation	30 th March 1949
Capital	Jaipur
Largest city	Jaipur
Official Language	Hindi
Additional Official Language	English

Item	Description
Regional Language	Rajasthani, Mewati
Latitude Extension	23.03°N to 30.12° N
Longitude Extension	69.30°E to 78.17° E
Area	132,140 sq. miles (342,239 sq. km.)
Tropic of Cancer	Banswara district
Average Summer Temperature Range	25° to 46° C (77° to 115° F)
Average Winter Temperature Range	8° to 28° C (46° to 82° F)
Average Rainfall Range	100 mm to 650 mm
Regions	Nine (Ajmer State, Hadoti, Dhundhar, Gorwar, Shekhawati, Mewar, Marwar, Vagad and Mewat)
Neighbouring States	Five (Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat)
State emblem	<p>The Lion Capital of Ashoka</p> 
State Flower	<p>Rohida</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific name: <i>Tecomella undulata</i>. • It is a deciduous tree of desert regions. • It thrives very well on stabilised sand dunes, which experience extreme low and high temperatures.
State Bird	<p>Godawan or Great Indian Bustard</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific name: <i>Ardeotis nigriceps</i>. • Immense and stately ground-dwelling birds of expansive grasslands; also found more infrequently in other open grassy habitats such as semi-desert and lightly worked fields. • Brown-winged and pale-necked, with a dark cap; male has a whiter neck than female. • Often found in small flocks when not breeding.

Item	Description
State Animal	<p data-bbox="767 233 847 258">Camel</p>  <ul data-bbox="767 583 1453 953" style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific name: Camelus • It is the pride of Rajasthan and thousands of poor families are dependent on it for their travel across the desert. • They are low-maintenance animals, subsisting on dry grass and shrubs. • Some popular breeds of camels in Rajasthan include Jaisalmeri, Mewati, Marwari, Bikaneri and Mewati etc. • Camels can survive without water for up to 15 days, and in some cases, even for several months. Camels can survive for so long because they store fat in their humps, which they can use for energy when food and water are scarce. <p data-bbox="767 968 879 993">Chinkara</p>  <ul data-bbox="767 1323 1453 1955" style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific name: Gazella bennettii. • It is considered a sacred animal by the Bishnois, a Hindu community of Rajasthan's Thar Desert. • It has a reddish-buff summer coat with smooth, glossy fur. • Chinkara (Indian gazelle) is native to Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India. • It is the smallest Asiatic antelope species. • There are six subspecies. Of these, Deccan chinkara and Gujarat chinkara are found in India. • Distribution: Deccan chinkara ranges from the Ganges Valley to Deccan Plateau. Gujarat chinkara is found in the Thar Desert, Rann of Kutch, Kathiawar, and Saurashtra region. • Habitat: Arid forests and deserts. It is a shy species and avoids human habitation. • Threats: Hunting and habitat loss. • Conservation Status: IUCN Red List: Least Concern • Indian Wildlife Protection Act, 1972: Schedule I

Item	Description
State Dance	<p>Ghoomar</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a traditional folk dance of Rajasthan. • Initially, the Bhil tribe performed it to worship Goddess Sarasvati and it was later embraced by other Rajasthani communities. • The dance is usually performed by women wearing flowing dresses called Ghaghara and covered by a ghonghat. • The dance involves the performers twirling and moving in and out of a large circle.
State Tree	<p>Khejri</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific name: Prosopis Cineraria. • It covers about two-thirds of the total geographical area of the State and is of immense significance culturally and economically. • Hindus highly revere this tree and worship it during the Dussehra Festival. • As per local mythology, the Pandavas hid their weapons under this tree when they were in exile. • The tender green pods of the tree are cooked and eaten as vegetables. • The leaves of the tree are used to treat various ailments. • The water-soluble extracts and isolated chemicals extracted from the Khejri pods have antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties.

Polity and Governance of Rajasthan

Formation of Rajasthan

It was known as the **Rajputana** under British India, the princely states came together in 1948 to form the **United States of Rajasthan**. In May 1949, it was renamed **the United States of Greater Rajasthan** and in 1956, the state of **Rajasthan** was born.

Representatives of Rajasthan in the Constituent Assembly

Representatives	Princely State
T.T. Krishnamachari	Jaipur Princely State
Hiralal Shastri	Jaipur Princely State
Ramchandra Upadhyay	Alwar Princely State
Dalel Singh	Kota Princely State
Mukut Bihari Bhargava	Ajmer-Merwara Princely State
Jai Narayan Vyas	Jodhpur Princely State
Balwant Singh Mehta	Udaipur Princely State
Manikyalal Verma	Udaipur Princely State
Raj Bahadur	Bharatpur Princely State
Jaswant Singh	Bikaner Princely State
Sardar Singh	Khetri Princely State
Gokul Lal Asawa	Bhilwara Princely State

RAJASTHAN IN PARLIAMENT

Lok Sabha

- Rajasthan has **25 Lok Sabha seats** out of which 4 seats are reserved for Scheduled Castes (Bharatpur, Bikaner, Sriganganagar, Karauli-Dholpur) and 3 seats for Scheduled Tribes (Udaipur, Dausa, Banswara).
- Maharani Gayatri Devi** was the first woman Lok Sabha member. Gayatri Devi ran for Parliament in 1962 and won the constituency in the Lok Sabha, winning 192,909 votes out of 246,516 cast. She continued to hold this seat in 1967 and 1971 as a member of the Swatantra Party founded by C. Rajagopalachari, running against the Indian National Congress.
- The first woman Lok Sabha member of Scheduled Caste from Rajasthan was **Ms. Usha Meena** (Sawai Madhopur).
- The first woman Lok Sabha member of a Scheduled Tribe from Rajasthan was **Ms. Sushila Bangaru** (Jalore)
- The most elected Lok Sabha member from Rajasthan was **Nathuram Mirdha** (Congress)
- In the Sixth Lok Sabha (23 March 1977 to 22 August 1979), the Lok Sabha seats in Rajasthan were increased from 23 to 25.

Rajya Sabha

- The first Rajasthani nominated for Rajya Sabha was **Sabha Narayan Singh** (2003).
- The first woman member of Rajya Sabha from Rajasthan was **Ms. Sharda Bhargava**. She was a member of the Rajya Sabha from 1952 to 1966 and also served as its vice chairperson during the 1956–57 period.
- Most elected (4 times) Rajya Sabha Members - **Ram Niwas Mirdha and Jaswant Singh** (Maximum term).
- Most elected female Rajya Sabha member- **Sharda Bhargava** (3 times).

Governors of Rajasthan

- The post of **Rajpramukh** was created in Rajasthan at the time of its unification.
- Sawai Mansingh** (Maharaja of Jaipur) was made the first and only Rajpramukh of the state on 30th March 1949. He held this post till 31st October 1956.
- The post of Governor was created in place of Rajpramukh after the reorganisation of the state on 1st November 1956.
- There is a Governor's Secretariat at Raj Bhavan to provide administrative assistance to the Governor. The Governor's Secretariat is headed by the Governor's Secretary (Senior Officer of the Administrative Service).

S. No.	Governors of Rajasthan	Tenure
1	Raj Pramukh Sawai Sh. Mansingh	30th March 1949 to 31st October 1956
2	Sardar Sh. Gurumukh Nihal Singh	1st November 1956 to 15th April 1962
3	Dr. Sampurnanand	16th April 1962 to 15th April 1967
4	Sardar Sh. Hukum Singh	16th April 1967 to 19th November 1970
5	Justice Jagat Narain (Charge)	20th November 1970 to 23rd December 1970
6	Sardar Sh. Hukum Singh	24th December 1970 to 30th June 1972
7	Sardar Sh. Joginder Singh	1st July 1972 to 14th February 1977
8	Justice Sh. Vedpal Tyagi (Charge)	15th February 1977 to 11th May 1977
9	Sh. Raghukul Tilak	12th May 1977 to 8th August 1981
10	Justice Sh. K.D. Sharma (Charge)	8th August 1981 to 5th March 1982
11	Air Chief Marshal O.P. Mehra	6th March 1982 to 4th January 1985
12	Justice P.K. Banerjee (Charge)	5th January 1985 to 31st January 1985
13	Air Chief Marshal O.P. Mehra	1st February 1985 to 3rd November 1985
14	Justice D.P. Gupta (Charge)	4th November 1985 to 19th November 1985
15	Sh. Vasant Rao Patil	15th October 1987 to 19th February 1988
16	Justice Jagdish Sharan Verma (Charge)	20th November 1985 to 14th October 1987
17	Sh. Sukhdev Prasad	20th February 1988 to 2nd February 1989
18	Justice Jagdish Sharan Verma (Charge)	3rd February 1989 to 19th February 1989
19	Sh. Sukhdev Prasad	20th February 1989 to 2nd February 1990
20	Sh. Milap Chand Jain (Charge)	3rd February 1990 to 13th February 1990
21	Prof. Devi Prasad Chattopadhyay	14th February 1990 to 25th August 1991
22	Dr. Swaroop Singh (Charge)	26th August 1991 to 4th February 1993
23	Dr. M. Chenna Reddy	5th February 1992 to 30th May 1993
24	Sh. Dhaniklal Mandal (Charge)	31st May 1993 to 29th June 1993
25	Sh. Baliram Bhagat	30th June 1993 to 30th April 1998
26	Sh. Sardar Darbara Singh	1st May 1998 to 23rd May 1998
27	Sh. N.L. Tibrewal (Charge)	24th May 1998 to 15th January 1999
28	Justice Sh. Anshuman Singh	16th January 1999 to 13th May, 2003
29	Sh. Nirmal Chandra Jain	14th May 2003 to 22nd September 2003
30	Sh. Kailashpati Mishra (Charge)	22nd September 2003 to 13th January, 2004
31	Sh. Madan Lal Khurana	14th January, 2004 to 31st October, 2004
32	Sh. T.V. Rajeswar (Charge)	01st November 2004 to 07th November, 2004
33	Smt. Pratibha Patil	08th November 2004 to 23rd June, 2007
34	Dr. A. R. Kidwai (Charge)	23rd June 2007 to 05th September, 2007
35	Sh. Shilendra Kumar Singh	06th September 2007 to 09 July, 2009
36	Shri Rameshwar Thakur (Charge)	10th July, 2009 to 22 July, 2009
37	Shri Shilendra Kumar Singh	23 July, 2009 to 01 December, 2009
38	Smt. Prabha Rau (Charge)	03rd December 2009 to 24th January, 2010

S. No.	Governors of Rajasthan	Tenure
39	Smt. Prabha Rau	25th January 2010 to 26th April, 2010
40	Shri Shivraj Patil (Charge)	28th April 2010 to 11th May 2012
41	Smt. Margaret Alva	12th May 2012 to 07th August 2014
42	Shri Ram Naik (Charge)	08th Aug 2014 to 03rd Sep 2014
43	Shri Kalyan Singh	04th Sep 2014 to 09th Sep 2019
44	Kalraj Mishra	09th Sep 2019 to 31st July 2024
45	Haribhau Kisanrao Bagade	31st July 2024 to Present

Chief Ministers Of Rajasthan

Chief Minister	Tenure	Party	Description
Hiralal Shastri	07 April 1949 to 06 January 1951.	Indian National Congress	First Prime Minister and first Chief Minister of the State
C.S. Venkatachari	06 January 1951 to 26 April 1951.		
Jai Narayan Vyas	26 th April 1951 to 03 rd March 1952 (first term)		He is the only Chief Minister who served in both nominated and elected forms.
Tikaram Paliwal	03 March 1952 to 31 October 1952		The First Chief Minister was elected after the first general election.
Jai Narayan Vyas	1 st November 1952 to 13 th November 1954 (second term)		
Mohanlal Sukhadia	First term - 13 November 1954 11 April 1957 Second term - 11 April 1957 11 March 1962 Third Term - 12 March 1962 - 13 March 1967		Most elected Chief Minister (4 times). After his third term, the State came under the President's rule for the first time.
	13 March 1967 26 April 1967	President rule	President rule
Mohanlal Sukhadia	26 April 1967 9 July 1971	Indian National Congress	
Barkatullah Khan	9 July 1971 11 October 1973		
Hari Dev Joshi	11 October 1973 29 April 1977		
	29 April 1977 22 June 1977	President rule	President rule
Bhairon Singh Shekhawat	22 June 1977 16 February 1980	Janta Party	
	16 February 1980 6 June 1980	President rule	President rule

Chief Minister	Tenure	Party	Description
Jagannath Pahadia	6 June 1980 14 July 1981	Indian National Congress	
Shiv Charan Mathur	14 July 1981 23 February 1985		
Hira Lal Devpura	23 February 1985 10 March 1985		
Hari Dev Joshi	10 March 1985 20 January 1988		
Shiv Charan Mathur	20 January 1988 4 December 1989		
Hari Dev Joshi	4 December 1989 4 March 1990		
Bhairon Singh Shekhawat	4 March 1990 15 December 1992	BJP	
	15 December 1992 4 December 1993	President rule	President rule
Bhairon Singh Shekhawat	4 December 1993 1 December 1998	BJP	
Ashok Gehlot	1 December 1998 8 December 2003	Indian National Congress	
Vasundhara Raje	8 December 2003 12 December 2008	BJP	The first woman Chief Minister of Rajasthan.
Ashok Gehlot	12 December 2008 13 December 2013	Indian National Congress	
Vasundhara Raje	13 December 2013 17 December 2018	BJP	
Ashok Gehlot	17 December 2018 15 December 2023	Indian National Congress	
Bhajan Lal Sharma	15 December 2023 to present	BJP	

Rajasthan Legislative Assembly

The Rajasthan Legislative Assembly, also known as the Rajasthan Vidhan Sabha, is the **unicameral** legislature of the state of Rajasthan. The assembly meets at Vidhan Bhavan situated in Jaipur, the capital of Rajasthan. Members of the Legislative Assembly are directly elected by the people for a term of 5 years. Presently, the legislative assembly consists of **200 members**. As per the provision of Article 168 of India's newly framed constitution, each state was required to form a legislature consisting of one or two Houses. The First Rajasthan Legislative Assembly (1952–57) was inaugurated on 31 March 1952. It had a strength of 160 members. The strength was increased to 190 after the merger of the erstwhile Ajmer State with Rajasthan in 1956. The Second (1957–62) and Third (1962–67) Legislative Assemblies had a strength of 176. The Fourth (1967–72) and Fifth (1972–77) Legislative Assembly comprised 184 members each. The strength became 200 from the Sixth (1977–80) Legislative Assembly onwards.

Each State has its own Secretariat, which is divided into various departments. The Chief Political Officer of the Secretariat is the Chief Minister and the Chief Administrative Officer is the Chief Secretary.

Currently, the 16th Rajasthan Assembly is functioning

- Speaker - **Vasudev Devnani** Since 21 December 2023
- Leader of the House (Chief Minister)- **Bhajan Lal Sharma**, (BJP) since 15 December 2023
- Deputy Leader of the House (Deputy Chief Minister)- **Diya Kumari**, (BJP) and **Prem Chand Bairwa**, (BJP) since 15 December 2023
- Leader of the Opposition- **Tika Ram Jolly**, (INC) since 16 January 2024
- Deputy Leader of the Opposition- **Ramesh Meena**, (INC) since 29 July 2024



Assembly	Speaker	Tenure	Party
1 st	Narottam Lal Joshi	31 March 1952 25 April 1957	INC
2 nd	Ram Niwas Mirdha	25 April 1957 to 1962	
3 rd	Ram Niwas Mirdha	1962 to 3 May 1967	
4 th	Niranjan Nath Acharya	3 May 1967 20 March 1972	
5 th	Ram Kishore Vyas	20 March 1972 18 July 1977 5 years, 120 days	
6 th	Laxman Singh Raja Gopal Singh	18 July 1977 20 June 1979 25 September 1979 7 July 1980	Janta Party