

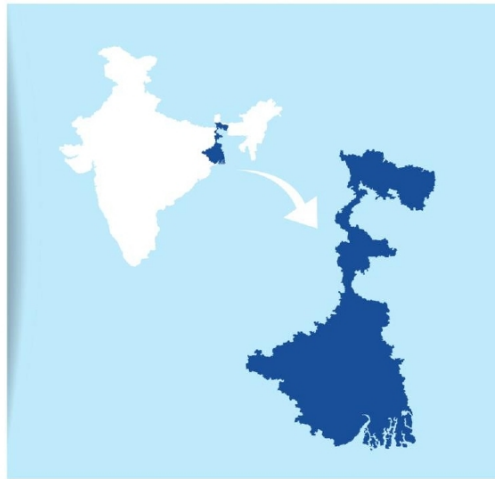
## West Bengal- An Overview

**State capital**  
Kolkata (One of the 4 major metropolitan cities of the country)

**Spoken languages**  
Bengali, Hindi, English and Nepali

**Literacy rate**  
77.1%

**Population**  
91.3 million



### ECONOMIC POWERHOUSE

4th largest economy in India  
Growth Rate: State recorded 14.99%  
GVA growth in FY 2017-18

### STRATEGIC LOCATION

Located on the East coast, forming a gateway to South-East Asia and North-East India  
Shares international border with Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan  
Well connected with the booming hubs of Asia such as Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia  
Hinterland comprises of mineral-rich states such as Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Orissa

**Area**-88,752 sq. km.

**Population**-91.3 million **Literacy**-77.1%

**23 Districts**, with Capital city **Kolkata**

**International Border** with Bangladesh, Nepal & Bhutan

Population base covered, corresponds to more than 1/4th (~27.5 %) of India's total population- **a thriving consumer base**

**Caters to nearby states** – Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh and North-East India (including Assam)

Considerable **chunk of population base (0.2 Billion)** resides in neighbouring countries viz. Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar and Bangladesh

Besides these, **whole of South-East Asia is easily accessible**

Third largest in the country in terms of road coverage with **16 National Highways and 2 Asian Highways**

**Vast road network of 3,15,404 km** with road density of 333.5 km per 1000 sq. km.

Leading in rail density with **~4,000 km of railway tracks**

**2nd largest metro rail network** with over 130 km extension going on

**950 km of waterfront**

With 13% of national coastline, the State **tops in terms of spread, density and reach of National Waterways** in the country

Leading in the country in terms of spread, density, reach, etc. of **National Inland Waterways**

**2 International Airports** – **Kolkata and Bagdogra**, with Kolkata Airport being India's 5th busiest

**1<sup>st</sup> Private Sector Greenfield Airport** of India at Andal, Bardhaman

**Tele-density of 92.7 as in FY 17**