

Odisha State Profile

The State of Odisha is located on the eastern part of our country along the Bay of Bengal. It is bounded by Andhra Pradesh in the South, West Bengal in the North, Jharkhand in the North West and Chhattisgarh on the West. Spread over 1.5 lakh sq.km and is home to 36 million people, the state is divided into 30 district for administrative purpose. Odia is the local language with a number of dialects of the same. Odisha is home to some of the primitive tribal communities of our country and about one-third of the area is under forests.

Primarily an agrarian economy where 60% of the population still depend on agriculture and allied activities for livelihoods. There has been a gradual shift seen in the composition of state economy and currently, services sector contribute the maximum to the state GDP, which stands at Rs 1.42 lakh crores at constant prices. Odisha is endowed with rich natural resources. About 32% of iron ore reserves, 25% of coal reserves, 55% of bauxite reserves, 95% of chromite reserves and 92% of nickel reserves of the country are found here. In the last decade and half, Odisha economy has grown rapidly. In the 10th and 11th Plan period, the economic growth registered by the state is 9.51% and 8.53% respectively and it is estimated that the state economy will stabilize at 9.14% growth rate in the 12th Plan period.

Bhubaneswar, the state capital has been consistently ranked by World Bank as one of the 3 best places to do business, which was also echoed by McKinsey. Odisha enjoys a very high quality connectivity to all the key locations of our country through rail, road and air. NH5 and NH6 connecting Kolkata-Chennai and Kolkata-Mumbai pass through the state.

Odisha has remained at the top of the states receiving the highest amounts of investments. Cumulatively, Odisha has received approximately USD 9 billions of investment from all sources. It is going to be the leading producer of primary steel, aluminum, ferro-alloys of our country in the near future as well as emerge as the power hub.