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## The Colourful North

## Learning Objectives

- At the end of this lesson, the learner will be able to:
- ↪ Identify a few cities of northern India
  - ↪ Locate and mark these cities on a political map of India
  - ↪ Describe the climate, famous dishes and languages spoken in these cities
  - ↪ List a few places of tourist interest in these cities

## Let's Start

ACTIVE EXPLORATION

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Read the clues below to guess the names of these famous places in northern India.

Who am I?

1. I am the capital city of India. \_\_\_\_\_
2. I am a beautiful union territory known for a magical Rock Garden. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Tourists love to take rides in my *shikara* boats on the Dal Lake. \_\_\_\_\_
4. I am known as the 'City of Nawabs' and I am famous for delicious food.  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Activity:** Talk to your parents or grandparents and find out if they have ever visited any of these places. What did they like the most?

India is a huge and wonderful country. Today, we are going to travel through some exciting cities in northern India. This colourful northern region includes states and union territories like Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Chandigarh, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.



The Northern India

## Delhi

Delhi is situated along the beautiful banks of the **River Yamuna**. Its official name is the **National Capital Territory of Delhi (NCT)**. **Delhi** is the capital of NCT, and **New Delhi** is the capital of India. It was smartly planned by **Sir Edwin Lutyens**. If you look at a map, Delhi shares its eastern border with Uttar Pradesh and is surrounded by Haryana on the other three sides.

**Climate:** The weather here is very hot during summer and very cold in winter. In May and June, you can feel hot and dry winds blowing, called *loo*. The city gets its rain between July and September.

**Government:** New Delhi is very important because the main offices of the Government of India are located here. It is also home to the **Parliament**, which is the highest law-making body. Even other countries have their offices here, known as **Embassies** or **High Commissions**.

**Life of the People:** Delhi is a melting pot where you can meet people from different parts of the country who live and work here. Because everyone speaks different languages, we proudly call Delhi **Mini-India**.

**Transport:** Traveling around the city is super easy. The **Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC)** operates thousands of public buses. You can also travel around using the amazing **Delhi Metro** trains or see people travelling by private cars and two-wheelers.



Delhi Metro



Parliament House

**Tourist Attractions:** There are so many beautiful monuments to see in Delhi. The famous **Red Fort** and **Jama Masjid** were built by a ruler named **Shah Jahan**. Every year on 15 August, the Prime Minister of India proudly hoists our national flag at the Red Fort. Other fantastic places to visit are *Raj Ghat* (the *samadhi* of Mahatma Gandhi), **Jantar Mantar**, **India Gate**, **Humayun's Tomb**, and the towering **Qutb Minar**. If you want to go shopping, **Chandni Chowk** is a very famous and busy market to explore.



**India Gate**



**Did You Know?**

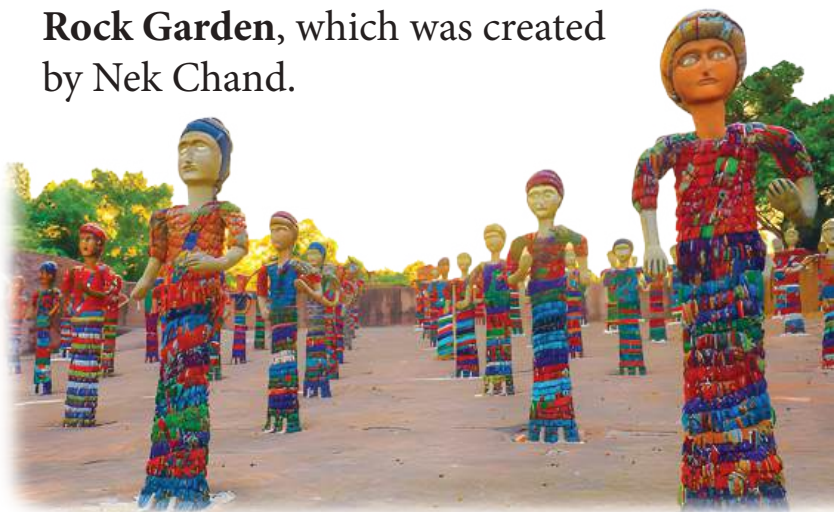
The Qutb Minar in Delhi was built more than 800 years ago.

## Chandigarh

Chandigarh is very special because it is a union territory and the capital of two states—**Punjab** and **Haryana**. It is a beautifully planned city, designed by a French architect named **Le Corbusier**.

When you are there, you will hear people speaking **Punjabi** and **Hindi**. Summers are hot and winters are cold.

You must visit the famous **Rock Garden**, which was created by Nek Chand.



**Rock Garden**



**Values & Life Skills**

ETHICAL DISPOSITIONS

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Nek Chand built a beautiful garden full of colourful sculptures of people, trees, houses, and animals using only discarded materials. This teaches us that we can create wonderful art by recycling things instead of throwing them away.

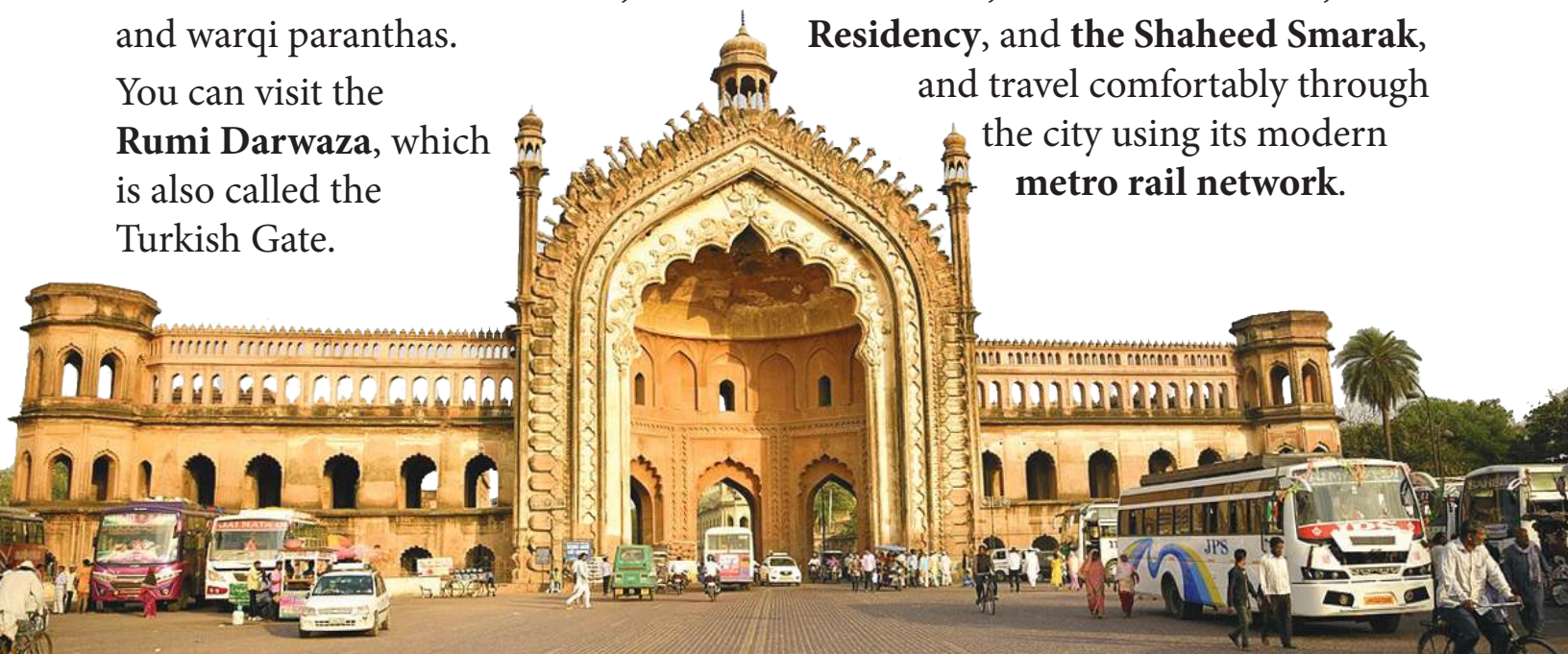
## Lucknow

Lucknow is the capital of **Uttar Pradesh**. It is lovingly known as the **City of Nawabs**. The city is situated along the banks of **River Gomti** and people mostly speak **Hindi** and **Urdu** here.

If you love food, Lucknow is famous for delicious dishes such as kebabs, kormas and warqi paranthas.

You can visit the **Rumi Darwaza**, which is also called the Turkish Gate.

You can also explore the **Bara Imambara, Chhota Imambara, the Residency, and the Shaheed Smarak**, and travel comfortably through the city using its modern **metro rail network**.



Rumi Darwaza

## Patna

Patna is the capital of **Bihar**. A long time ago, its old name was **Pataliputra**. The city is situated along the banks of **River Ganga**.

People in Patna love to eat **chura-dahi**

and **litti-chokha**. Most people here speak **Hindi, Maithili and Bhojpuri**.

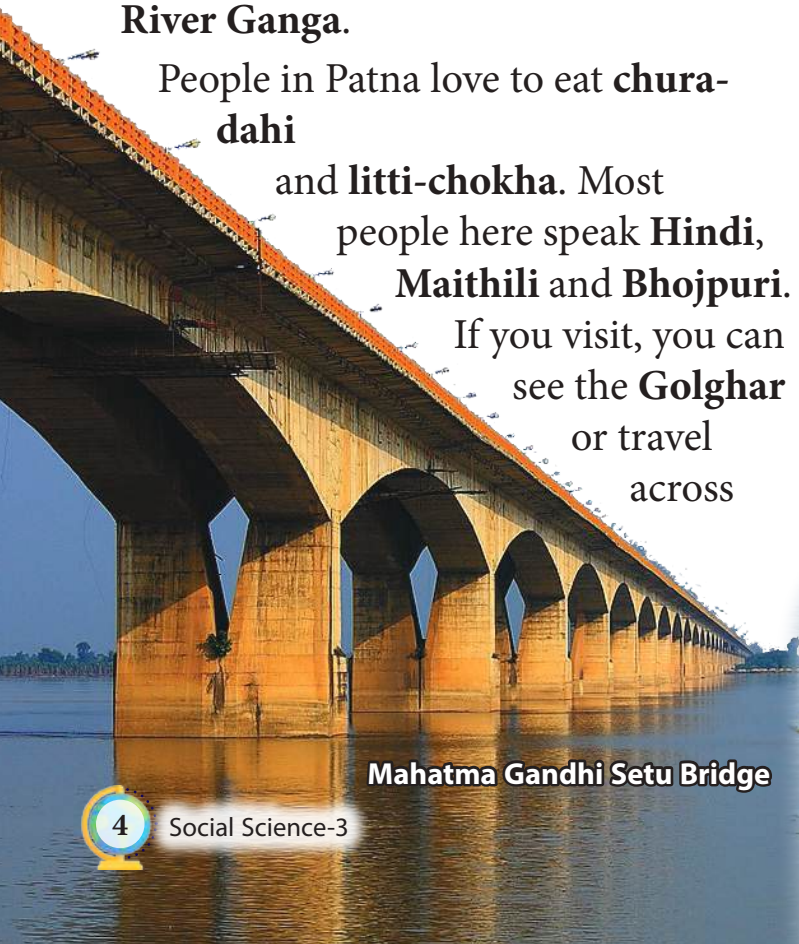
If you visit, you can see the **Golghar** or travel across

one of the longest bridges in India, the **Mahatma Gandhi Setu**.

## Srinagar

Srinagar is the summer capital of **Jammu & Kashmir**, situated on the banks of **River Jhelum**. Winters are very cold here, and the city receives snowfall in December and January.

Tourists love to take shikara rides on the famous **Dal Lake**. People here speak **Kashmiri, Dogri and Urdu**. To stay warm, people drink a special type of tea called **kahwa**.



Mahatma Gandhi Setu Bridge



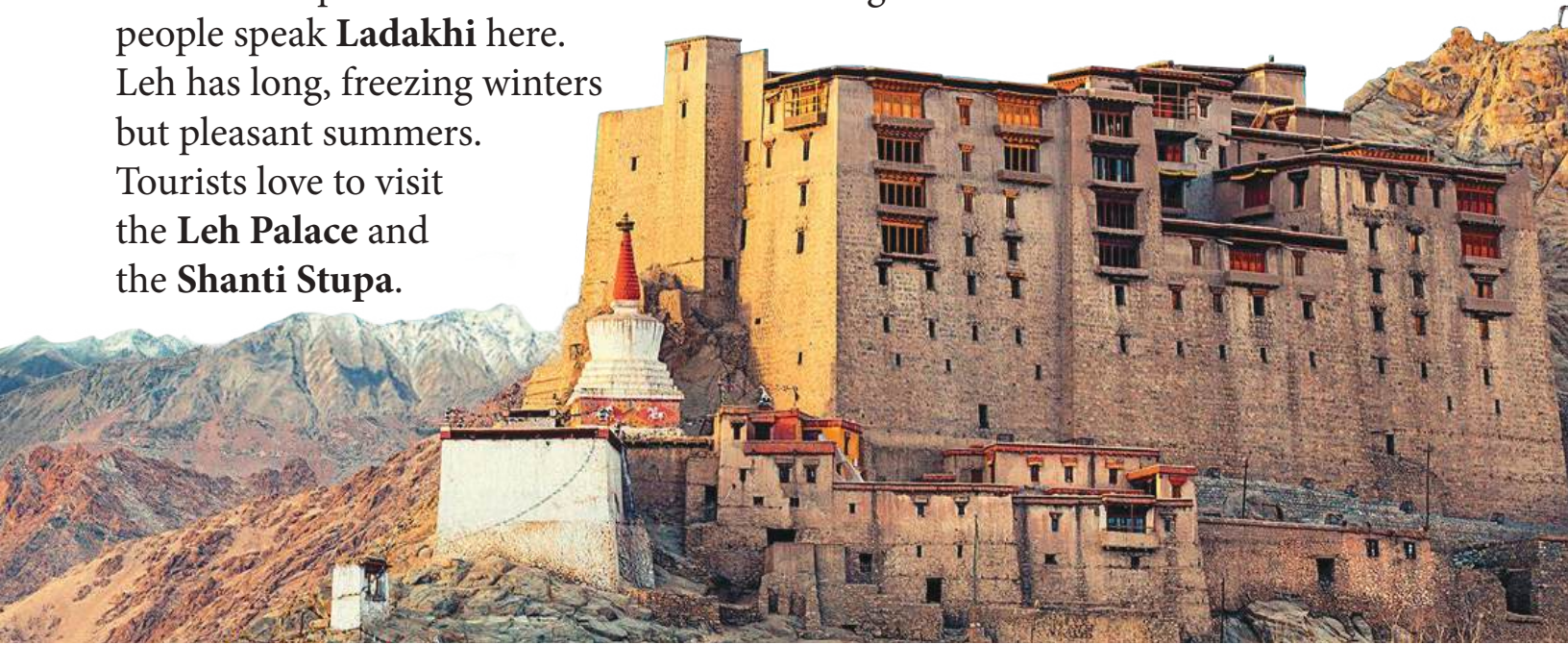
Dal Lake

## Leh

Leh is the capital of **Ladakh**. It is situated along the banks of **River Indus**. Most people speak **Ladakhi** here.

Leh has long, freezing winters but pleasant summers.

Tourists love to visit the **Leh Palace** and the **Shanti Stupa**.



Leh Palace



### Glossary

CONCEPTUAL VOCABULARY

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**Monuments:** Special historical structures or buildings

**Architect:** A person whose job is to draw plans and design how new buildings will look

**Sculptures:** Beautiful shapes or figures created by carving things like wood, stone, metal, or even clay

**Memorial:** A special place created to honour a great person who has passed away

**Museum:** A building where rare, historical, and interesting objects are kept



### Quick Recap

COGNITIVE SYNTHESIS

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- ↪ Our country's capital city is New Delhi.
- ↪ Chandigarh is a well-planned union territory.
- ↪ The city of Lucknow is very popular for its mouth-watering dishes.
- ↪ The capital city of the state of Bihar is Patna.
- ↪ In Srinagar, visitors love taking relaxing boat rides on *shikaras*.
- ↪ The beautiful, cold region of Ladakh has Leh as its capital.



## Time to Answer

### A. Tick (✓) the correct option.

1. What are the hot and dry winds that blow in Delhi during May and June called?

a. Kahwa

b. Loo

c. Shikara

2. Who designed the beautifully planned city of Chandigarh?

a. Shah Jahan

b. Le Corbusier

c. Nek Chand

3. Which city is affectionately known as the 'City of Nawabs'?

a. Patna

b. Srinagar

c. Lucknow

4. Which of the following is a famous dish from Patna?

a. Kebabs

b. Litti-chokha

c. Warqi paranthas

### B. Fill in the blanks.

Mini-India

Pataliputra

Yamuna

Kahwa

1. Delhi is situated along the beautiful banks of the River .....

2. Because people from all over the country live and work together here, Delhi is proudly called .....

3. A long time ago, the old name of Patna was .....

4. To stay warm in the freezing winter, people in Srinagar drink a special tea called .....

### C. Answer the following questions.

1. Name two famous monuments in Delhi that were built by Shah Jahan.

2. What is special about the Rock Garden in Chandigarh?

3. Which river flows alongside the city of Lucknow?

4. Where do tourists love to take relaxing shikara rides in Srinagar?

### D. Assertion and Reason

**Read the statements below and choose the correct option.**

a. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation for A.

b. Both A and R are true, but R is NOT the correct explanation for A.

c. A is true, but R is false.

d. A is false, but R is true.

↪ **Assertion (A):** Delhi is often referred to as 'Mini-India'.

↪ **Reason (R):** People from many different parts of the country live in Delhi and speak various languages.



## A. Project Work

Inspired by Nek Chand's famous Rock Garden in Chandigarh, create your own beautiful art piece without spending a single rupee.

- ↪ **Task:** Collect clean, discarded household items like old buttons, bottle caps, ice-lolly sticks, or empty matchboxes. Use glue to stick them together on a thick piece of cardboard to make a colourful shape, like a flower, an animal, or a house.
- ↪ **Share:** Bring it to class and tell your friends what materials you recycled!



## B. Information Gathering

Choose your favourite city from the chapter. Take an A4 sheet of paper and fold it in half to make a card. On the front, draw or paste a picture of its famous monument. Inside, neatly write down the languages spoken there and draw a picture of its famous food. Give it a catchy title, like "*Welcome to Colourful Lucknow!*"

## C. Map Master

(Application of Knowledge)

Take a blank political map of India. Using your pencil colours, locate and colour the states or union territories where these cities are located: Delhi, Chandigarh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh. Label the cities neatly.

## D. Discuss/Peer Learning

(Critical Thinking & Experiential Learning)

Think about the climate of Srinagar and the climate of Delhi. In Srinagar, people drink hot *kahwa* to stay warm. In Delhi, people face hot *loo* winds in summer.



Discuss with your family or partner: *How does the weather of a place change what people eat and drink?* Write two short sentences about your findings in your notebook.