



COFFEE PRODUCTION: GEOGRAPHY

NEWS: India seventh largest coffee producer in the world: Government

WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

India has become the 7th largest coffee producer globally, with exports nearly doubling to \$1.29 billion in the last financial year due to increased global demand and rising domestic consumption driven by café culture and value-added products.

1. Historical Context of Coffee in India

- Coffee was introduced in India in **1600 AD** by Baba Budan, who planted **seven seeds** of Mocha coffee in Karnataka's Baba Budan Giris.
- **Commercial cultivation** began in the 18th century, initiated by British entrepreneurs.

2. Global Position and Export Performance

- India ranks as the **7th largest coffee producer** globally.
- **Exports Growth:**
 - In FY 2023, exports reached **\$1.29 billion**, nearly doubling from **\$719 million** in 2020-21.
 - **Key Importers:** Italy, Belgium, and Russia.
- **Export Focus:**
 - India primarily exports **unroasted coffee beans**.
 - There is increasing global demand for **value-added products** like roasted and instant coffee.

3. Domestic Coffee Consumption Trends

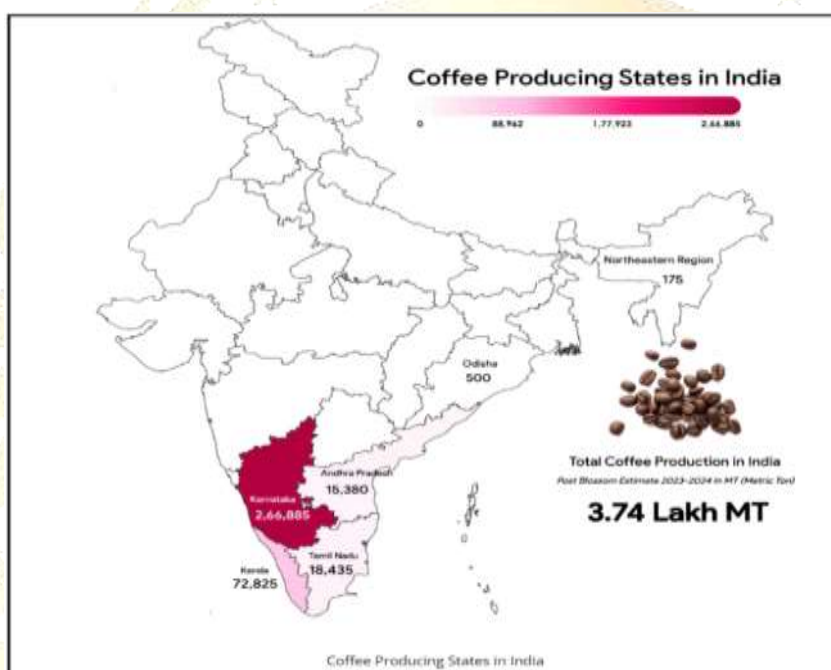
- Factors driving increased domestic coffee consumption:
 - Rise of **café culture** with international chains like Starbucks and Café Coffee Day.
 - Higher disposable incomes and urbanization.
 - Shift in preference towards coffee over tea, especially among younger generations.

4. Coffee Production in India

- **Types Produced:**



- **Arabica:** Known for its mild flavor and aroma.
- **Robusta:** Hardier with a stronger taste, used in instant coffee.
- **Production Areas:**
 - Traditional regions: **Western Ghats** (Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu).
 - Non-traditional regions: Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, and North-East India.
- **Leading States:**
 - Karnataka contributes the most, followed by Kerala and Tamil Nadu.



5. Climatic and Agricultural Practices

- **Ideal Climatic Conditions:**
 - Temperature range: **15°C to 24°C**.
 - Susceptible to extreme temperatures.
- **Shade-Grown Coffee:**
 - Two-tier mixed shade canopy with leguminous trees.
 - Benefits: Prevents soil erosion, enriches soil, and stabilizes temperature fluctuations.

6. Coffee Board of India



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- Established under the **Coffee Act VII of 1942**.
- Functions under the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**.
- **Composition:**
 - 33 members, including the Chairman and the Secretary & CEO.
- **Role:** Promotes coffee production, research, and export initiatives in India.

Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/india-seventh-largest-coffee-producer-in-the-world-government/articleshow/117403142.cms?from=mdr>



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