

**Embassy of India
Tunis**

Fact Sheet on Tunisia

Official Name	: Republic of Tunisia
Area	: 162,155 sq. kms.
Climate	: Mediterranean and Dry Saharan in the South
Local Time	: GMT + 1 (IST – 4½ hours)
Languages	: Arabic (official language), French
National Day	: March 20 (Independence Day)
Population	: 10.98 million; mainly Arabs (some Berbers are still found to be in rural areas of the South), Urban 65%.
Population Growth	: 0.92% (2014).
Literacy	: Approximately 74.3%
Life Expectancy	: Male: 73.6years, Female: 77.9years (2014)
Religion	: 98% Muslims (Sunni), 1% Christians and 1% Jews.

Form of Government:

Elections to the National Constituent Assembly (NCA) were held in October 2011. A coalition Govt. of Ennahda, CPR and Ettakatol parties, represented in the NCA, assumed the office from December 2011 – January 2014. During the period NCA completed drafting a new constitution for the country. End-January 2014, a technocrat government with no political affiliation, led by Mehdi Jomaa assumed the office which was tasked to hold general elections, both Legislative and Presidential in October and November 2014 respectively. Following two rounds of Presidential elections in November and December 2014, Mr. Beji Caid Essebsi (BCE) won the election and became President. He nominated Mr. Habib Essid, a technocrat and former Interior Minister in the first post-revolution government, as Prime Minister on 5 January 2015.

Head of State	: H.E. Beji Caid Essebsi, President (since 31 December 2014)
Head of Government	: H.E. Habib Essid , Prime Minister (since 5 January 2015).
Administration	: 24 Governorates (Provinces)
Prominent Cities	: Tunis (1.0m), Sfax, Sousse, Gabes, Bizerte, Kairouan .
Currency	: Tunisian Dinar (TD)
Exchange Rates	: US\$ 1 = TD 2.035
Foreign Currency Reserve	: US\$ 7.662 billion
GDP	: US\$ 47 billion (2014 estimate)

GDP per Capita : US\$ 4,226 (2014).

Oil&Gas : Proven reserves of oil are estimated at 425 mn. bbl.
(January 2014) Tunisia's daily oil consumption is more than its production and has to depend on imports from other countries. Natural Gas proven reserves are estimated at 65.13 bn. cu m

Major oil companies operating in Tunisia :
PA RESSOURCES, BGT LTD, HTC, ENI Tunisia, OMV, Alpine, NUMHYDE, Shell STORM VENTURES & COOPER

Foreign Investment : US \$ 1 billion. (2015)

Unemployment : 17 % (2012)/ 15.9 % (2013)/ 15.2% (2014)

Rate of Inflation : 2010- 4.4%; 2011- 3.5%, 2012- 5.6% & 2013 – 5.8%, 2014- 5.5%.

Tourism : Tourism contributes to around 8 % of Tunisia's total GDP. Due to revolution in the country, the tourist flow declined to around 4.5 million in 2011. However, the tourism sector improved appreciably and the avenue for this sector registered a 36 % increase in 2012 and 4% increase in 2013 receiving over 6 million tourists. In 2014 the number of tourist were recorded below 6 millions. Due to security concerns, tourism in 2015 declined drastically.

Major Exports : Textiles, agricultural products (olive oil, dates, citrus, vegetables), phosphate and chemicals, mechanical & electrical equipments and hydrocarbons etc.

Major Imports : Machinery and equipment, chemicals, fuel and food etc.

Major trade partners : France, Italy, Germany, Algeria, China, Spain & Turkey (2014)

Global Trade : 2010: Exports \$ 16.46 bn, Imports \$ 22.24 bn
2011: Exports \$ 16.63 bn, Imports \$ 22.29 bn
2012: Exports \$ 17.02 bn, Imports \$ 24.47 bn
2013: Exports \$ 16.68 bn, Imports \$ 23.94 bn
2014: Exports \$ 15.02 bn, Imports \$ 22.02 bn

Bilateral Trade Data - Annual (US\$ million)

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
India's Exports	222.25	280.16	351.62	380.94	313.11	283.92	239.5
India's Imports	236.17	304.07	143.96	181.70	85.77	148.45	100.75
Total	458.4	584.2	495.6	562.6	398.9	432.37	340.25

(Source: National Institute of Statistics, Tunis)

January 2016