

13. BOMBAY

Bombay is the fastest growing, most affluent, most industrialised city in India. Sahar International Airport is the country's busiest and Mazagon and Sassoon Docks handle nearly 50% of India's total foreign trade. The city is a stronghold of free enterprise, a manufacturing centre for everything from cars and bicycles to pharmaceuticals and textiles. As India's economic centre it is the first choice for many western businesses wanting to invest in India and has become an important base for many overseas companies.

A comparison with New York is helpful for anyone looking for a quick guide: they're both major ports, they're both the financial centres of their countries (Bombay has one of the fastest-growing stock markets in Asia), they both have huge work forces and populations of over 13 million, and they both suffer from a shortage of cheap office space. Space in Bombay is certainly not cheap. The tenancy laws mean that most established businesses still pay the same old rent, so the new companies coming in have to look for new accommodation. So, the companies have to find sites further away from the heart of the city which, in turn, adds to the city's traffic problems.

Nariman Point is becoming the modern business centre of Bombay, with many international class hotels, airline offices and banks, and, with some of the tallest buildings in India it is even starting to look like a mini-Manhattan. Malabar Hill, where the rents are even higher than Manhattan, remains Bombay's wealthy residential area and the cheaper hotels and restaurants are at the northern end of Colaba Causeway.

There are also parts of the city that retain their colonial appearance and ways: there are many cricket, croquet, rugby, golf and bridge clubs to be found and everyone speaks English.

Unlike the New Yorkers, however, the people of Bombay are happy to start work a little later, sometimes even as late as 10.30 am. Because Bombay is a peninsula the rush hour is unbelievably bad. Some people actually travel to work at 9.00 in an attempt to avoid the rush hour!

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Feladat

Olvassa el a „Bombay” c. szöveget és döntse el, hogy az állítások igazak vagy hamisak, a megadott példa (0) szerint.

	Statements	True	False
0.	Bombay is the most developed city in India	X	
1.	Bombay is the most rapidly developing and richest city in India		
2.	Bombay is where a lot of western companies prefer to invest		
3.	The Mazagon and Sassoon Docks deal with almost half of the country's foreign trade		
4.	Fewer than 10 million people live in Bombay		
5.	There is a lack of low-cost office space in Bombay		
6.	Companies locating outside the city centre do not cause traffic problems		
7.	The Nariman Point area is called Manhattan		
8.	You find expensive hotels and casinos at the northern end of Colaba Causeway		
9.	The rich people in Bombay live in the Malabar Hill area		
10.	Because Bombay is an island, there is no rush hour		