

GEOGRAPHY

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Unit 1

India - Location, Relief and Drainage.

I] Choose the correct answer.

1. The north-south extent of India is
a) 2,500 km b) 2933 km c) 3214 km d) 2814 km.

Ans → (c) 3214 km.

2. _____ River is known as "sorrow of Bihar".
a) Narmada b) Godavari c) Kosi d) Damodar.

Ans → (c) Kosi

3. A landmass bounded by sea on 3 sides is referred to as _____.
a) coast b) Island c) Peninsula d) Strait.

Ans → (c) Peninsula

4. The Palk Strait and Gulf of Mannar separates India from _____.
a) Goa b) West Bengal c) Sri Lanka d) Maldives.
Ans → (c) Sri Lanka.

5. The highest peak of south India is _____.
a) Ooty b) Kodaikanal c) Anaimudi d) Jindagadar.
Ans → (c) Anaimudi

6. Plains are formed by older alluviums.
a) Bhabar b) Tarai c) Bhangar d) Khadar.
Ans → (c) Bhangar

7. Pulicat Lake is located between the states of :

- a) West Bengal & Odisha
- b) Karnataka & Kerala.
- c) Odisha and Andhra Pradesh
- d) Tamil Nadu & Andhra Pradesh.

Ans → d) Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh

II] Match the following .

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. Tsangpo | o) Tributary of River Ganga |
| 2. Yamuna | b) Highest peak in India |
| 3. New alluvium | c) River Brahmaputra in Tibet |
| 4. Mt. Godwin southern part of East Auster (K ₂) | d) Coastal Plain |
| 5. Coromandal coast | e) Khadhar. |

Ans →

1. → c

2 → a

3 → c

4. → b

5 → d

III] Give Reasons :

1. Himalayan are called young fold mountains .

→ Himalayas ^{were} formed by earth's movements which affected the relief of the earth in the last phase of its geological history. Because of the young age which is evident from striking contrast in relief, Himalayan ranges are called young fold mountains.

2. North Indian Rivers are perennial .

→ North Indian Rivers have their origin from snow covered Himalayas. As these rivers have water throughout the year they are referred to as perennial rivers .

3. South Indian rivers are east flowing.

→ Most of the southern rivers flow towards the east as they originate from the plateau regions and follow the natural cycle of flow of water i.e. from high altitude to low latitude.

4. West flowing rivers do not form deltas.

→ Most rivers flowing west from the western ghats do not form deltas because of high gradient and they don't have to travel much distance to drain into the sea.

This prevents them from forming deltas at their mouths & mostly only estuaries are formed.

IV] Distinguish between the following:

i. Himalayan rivers and Peninsular rivers.

HIMALAYAN RIVERS

- Originate from Himalayas
- Long & wide, perennial in nature.
- Unsuitable for hydropower generation.
- Middle & lower courses are navigable
- Includes Indus, Ganga and Brahmaputra rivers.

PENINSULAR RIVERS

- Originate from western ghats.
- Short and narrow also non-perennial in nature.
- Suitable for hydropower generation.
- Not useful for navigation.

Includes Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, Cauvery, Narmada and Tapti rivers.

2. Western ghats and eastern ghats .

WESTERN GHATS

- a) They run parallel to western coast and form the western boundary of the Deccan Plateau .
- b) They are continuous & can be crossed only through the passes like Pal Ghat , Thal Ghat , Bhorghat .
- c) The highest peak of this region is Anaimudi with a height of 2659 m .
- d) These Ghats are highest . Average height - 900 to 1600 m .
- e) They face rain bearing winds & cause orographic rainfall .

EASTERN GHATS

- They run parallel to eastern coast & form the eastern boundary of the Deccan Plateau . These are more discontinuous and irregular .
- The highest peak of this region is Mahendragiri with a height of 1051 m .
- These ghats are lower than western ghats with average height of about 600 meters .
- It is almost parallel to monsoon winds originating from Bay of Bengal & does not cause much rainfall .

3. Western coastal Plains and eastern Coastal Plains .

Western coastal Plain

- It lies between the Western Ghats and Arabian Sea
- It is a narrow plain, which stretches from Gujarat to Kerala with an average width of 50-80 km .

Eastern Coastal Plains

- It lies between the Eastern Ghats & Bay of Bengal sea .
- They are wide & level plains with an average width of 80-100 km .

- This plain is drained by few rivers like Narmada and Tapi forming estuaries.
- consists of 3 regions
 - Northern part of coast (Kokan)
 - Central stretch (Kannad plain)
 - southern stretch (malabar coast)
- This plain is drained by more rivers forming delta like Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna and Kaveri.
- It consists of 2 sections.
 - Northern part [Northern Circar]
 - southern part [Cromandal coast]

V) Answer in brief -

1. Name the neighbouring countries of India .
 - Neighbouring countries of India are - Pakistan and Afghanistan - in north west , China, Nepal, Bhutan - in north , Bangladesh & Myanmar - in east .
2. Give the importance of IST
 - The longitudinal extent of India between the west and the east is about 30° from Gujarat to Arunachal Pradesh. This longitudinal difference makes a difference of about 2 hours in local time between Gujarat in west and Arunachal Pradesh in east.

In order to avoid the time difference between the places IST is calculated. The Indian Standard Time [IST] is calculated based on $82^{\circ}30'$ East longitude .

3. Write a short note on Deccan Plateau.

- • The shape of Deccan plateau is roughly triangular.
- One of the sides of this triangle is marked by the line joining Kanyakumari and with Rajmahal hills and this line passes through the Eastern Ghats.
- The second arm is marked by Satpura Range, Mahadeo Hills, Maikal Range and Rajmahal hills.
- The third arm is marked by Western Ghats.
- Area of this plateau is about 7 lakh sq. km.
- Height ranges from 500 to 1000 m above sea level.

4. State the west flowing rivers of India.

- • Narmada, Tapti and Mahi are the west flowing rivers of India.
- They flow into Arabian sea through Gulf of Cambay.

5. Write a brief note on island group of Lakshadweep.

- • Lakshadweep is a small group of coral islands located off the west coast of India.
- It covers an area of 32 sq. km.
- Kavaratti is its administrative capital.
- Lakshadweep Islands are separated from Maldive Islands by the Eight Degree Channel.
- The unhabited "Pitt Island" of this group has a Bird sanctuary. Earlier it had 3 divisions namely → Laccadive
→ Minicoy
→ Amindivi.
- It was named as Lakshadweep in 1973.

vii] Answer in paragraph.

1. Explain the divisions of Northern mountain & its importance to India.

→ Northern Mountains:

- Northern mountain are the youngest and loftiest mountain chain in the world.
- It stretches for a distance of 2500 km from the Indus gorge in west to Brahmaputra gorge in east.
- The major divisions of Northern mountains are
 - Trans Himalayas
 - Himalayas
 - Eastern or
Pewanchal hills.

i) The Trans Himalayas:

- It lies in Jammu & Kashmir & Tibetan Plateau.
- It is also known as Western Himalayas. As its areal extent is more in Tibet, it is also known as Tibetan Himalayas.
- The rocks of this region are of Thethys sediments & contain fossils bearing marine sediment.
- The prominent ranges of this division are Zaskar, Ladakh, Kailash and Karakoram.

ii) The Himalayas

- It is formed by uplifted compression of Thethys sea due to tectonic forces.
- It has three parallel ranges.
 - Greater Himalayas [Himadri]
 - Lesser Himalayas [Himachal]
 - Outer Himalayas [Siwaliks]

a) Greater Himalayas or Himadri:

- It is the most continuous range.

- Almost all the lofty peaks of Himalayas are located in this range. Eg. Mt. Everest (8848 m) and Kanchenjunga (8586 m).
- It is the region of Permanent Snow cover.
- It has many glaciers like Gangotri, Yamunothri & Siachen.

b) The Lesser Himalayas or Himachal

- It is the middle range of Himalayas.
- Made up of rocks like slate, limestone & quartzite.
- Important ranges Pir Panjal, Dhauladhar & Mahabharat.
- Famous for hill stations - Shimla, Mussorie, Nainital, Almora, Ranikhet & Darjeeling.

c) The outer Himalays or Siwaliks

- most discontinuous range dissected by the Himalayan rivers.
- The longitudinal valleys found between the Siwaliks and Himachal are called Duns in the west and Duars in the east.
Eg. Dehradoon.
- This range is ideal for settlements.

iii) The Eastern Himalayas or Purvanchal Hills

- They are eastern offshoots of Himalayas.
- most of these hills are located along the border of India & Myanmar.
- Some of the important hills are - Patkai Bum, Naga hills, Manipur hills, Garo hills, Khari hills & Jaintia hills.
- Collectively known as Purvanchal hills.

* Importance :

- Forms as the natural barrier to subcontinent.
- It is the source for many perennial rivers like Indus, Ganges, Brahmaputra etc.

- The Northern mountains are described as paradise to tourists due to its natural beauty.
- It provides raw material for many forest based industries.
- Prevents cold winds blowing from central Asia & protects India from severe cold.
- Himalayas are renowned for the rich biodiversity.

2. Give an account on major Peninsular rivers of India.

- The rivers in south India are called Peninsular rivers.
 - Most of these rivers originate from the western ghats.
 - These are seasonal rivers (non-perennial).
 - They have large seasonal fluctuation in volume of water as they are solely fed by rain.
 - These rivers flow in valleys with steep gradients.
- Based on direction of flow, the peninsular rivers are divided into -
- *) West flowing rivers
 - **) East flowing rivers.

a) East Flowing rivers.

1) Mahanadi:

- Originates near Sihawa in Raipur district of Chhattisgarh & flows through Odisha.
- Its length is 851 km.
- Seonath, Telen, Sandur and Ib are its major tributaries.
- The Mahanadi empties its water in Bay of Bengal.

2) Godavari:

- Godavari is the longest river (1465 km) with an area of 3.13 lakh km² among the Peninsular rivers.
- It is also called Vridha Ganga.
- It originates in Nashik district of Maharashtra, a portion of Western ghats.

- It flows through the states of Telangana & Andhra Pradesh before joining Bay of Bengal.
- Purna, Penganga, Pranitha, Idravati, Tal & Salami are its major tributaries.
- The river near Rajahmundry gets divided into 2 channels called Vasistha & Gautami & forms one of the largest deltas in India.
- Kolleru, a fresh water lake is located in deltaic region of Godavari.

3) Krishna :

- The River Krishna originates from a spring at a place called Mahabaleshwar in western ghats of Maharashtra.
- Its length is 1400 km and an area of 2.58 lakh sq. km.
- It is the second longest Peninsular river. Bhima, Peddavagu, Musi, Koyna & Thungabhadra are the major tributaries of this river.
- It also flows through Andhra Pradesh & joins in Bay of Bengal at Narasaladevi.

4) Kaveri :

- The river Kaveri originates at Talakaveri, Kudagu hills in Karnataka.
- Its length is 800 km.
- The river Kaveri is called Dakshin Ganga or Ganga of South.
- Harangi, Hemavati, Kabini, Bhavani, Arkavathy, Noyyal, Amaravathi etc are the main tributaries of river Kaveri.
- It empties into the Bay of Bengal at Poompuhar.

b) West flowing rivers

1) Narmada

- It rises in Amarkantak Plateau in Madhya Pradesh at an elevation of about 1057 m and flows for a distance of about 1312 km.
- It is the largest among the west flowing rivers of Peninsular India.
- Its principal tributaries are Burhner, Halon, Heran, Banjat, Dudhi, Shakkar, Tawa, Bama & Kolar.
- It forms 27 km long estuary before outfalling into Arabian Sea through the Gulf of Cambay.

2) Tapti

- It is one of the major rivers of Peninsular India with a length of about 724 km.
- Tapti river rises near Multai in Betul district of Madhya Pradesh at an elevation of about 752 m.
- The major tributaries are Vaki, Gomai, Arunavati, Aner, Nezu, Buray, Panchra and Bori.
- It outfalls into Arabian Sea through Gulf of Cambay.

3. Give a detailed account on the basin of Ganga.

- • The Ganga river system is the largest drainage system of India.
- The Ganga river is 2480 km long.
 - It rises in the Gangotri glacier in the Himalayas at a height of 6000 metres.
 - It cuts deep gorges through Siwalik ranges and enters into plain at Haridwar.
 - It covers the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal.

- The river Yamuna rises in Yamunotri glacier. After flowing for a distance of about 300km, it joins Ganga on its right bank at Allahabad.
- The rivers Chambal, Belwa, Son and Ken rises in the Deccan Plateau and join Ganga on its right bank.
- The Ghandak, the Gomati, the Ghagara and the Kosi join Ganga on its left bank.
- The river is covered by thick alluvial sediments.
- The Ganga plain slopes gently from Haryana & drains into Bay of Bengal.
- The largest distributary of Ganga is Hoogly.
- Most of the Ganga Delta lies in Bangladesh.
- The seaward of Ganga Delta has tidal estuaries, sand banks and islands known as Sunderbans.