

PHYSIOGRAPHY OF INDIA

L.No	Title of Lesson	SKILLS	Activity
9	Physiography of India	Self Awareness, Problem Solving, Critical Thinking, Decision Making	Appreciate Relief Features of Surroundings

Meaning

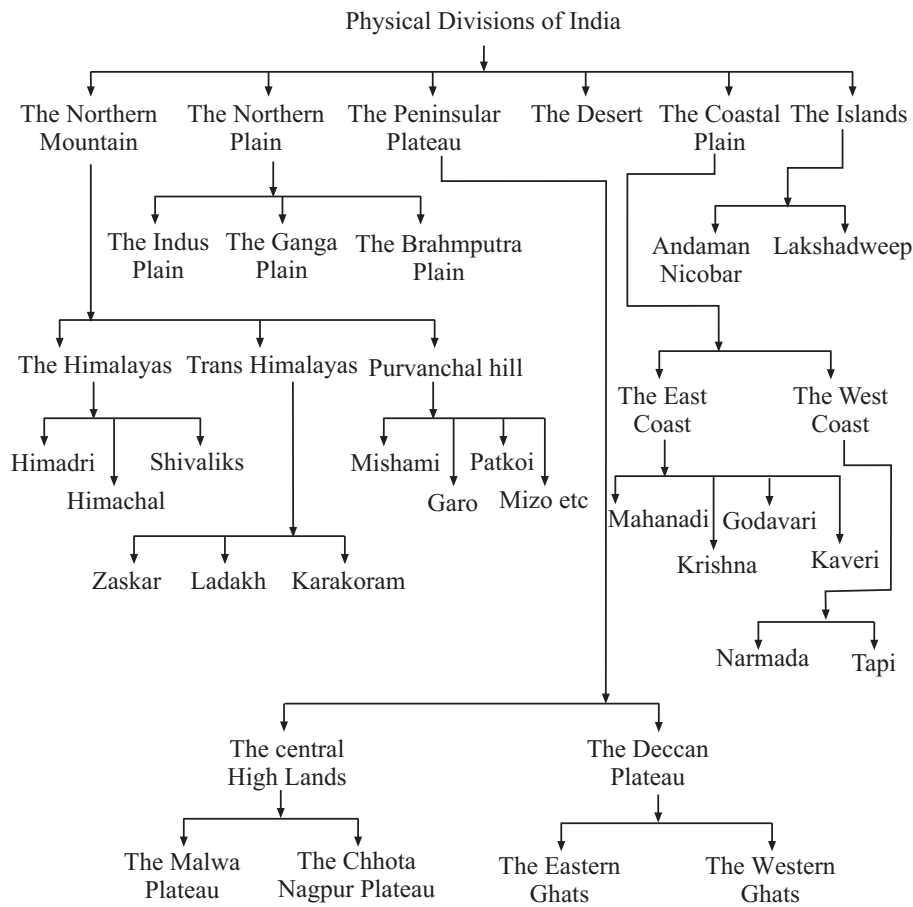
India is a large country. India is the seventh largest country of the world. It extends from the state of Jammu and Kashmir in the North to the state of Tamil Nadu in the South; from the state of Arunachal Pradesh in the east to the state of Gujarat in the west. We have the Himalayas, the world's highest mountain ranges, northern plains, one of the largest plains of the world.

Location and Extent

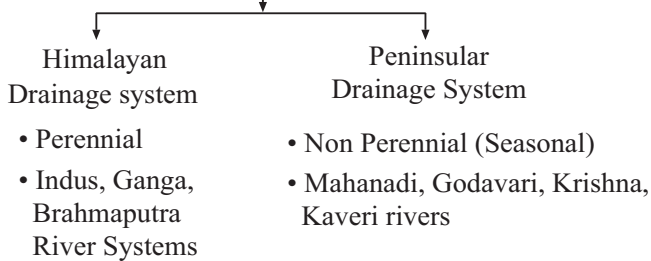
- Latitudinal extent of Indian mainland is $8^{\circ}4'$ to $37^{\circ}6'$ North.
- Longitudinal extent of Indian mainland is $68^{\circ}7'$ to $97^{\circ}25'$ East.
- North – South extent is 3214 Kms.
- East – West extent is 2933 Kms.
- India accounts for 2.42% of the total land area of the world.
- India lies entirely in the Northern hemisphere and Eastern hemisphere.
- The tropic of cancer ($23^{\circ}30'N$ latitude) passes through almost the centre of the country.
- The Indian Standard Meridian ($82^{\circ}30'E$ longitude) passes almost from the middle of the country.
- India is surrounded by water from three sides i.e. Arabian Sea (West), Bay of Bengal (East) and Indian Ocean (South)
- Kanya Kumari is the southern most ($8^{\circ}4'N$ latitude) point of Indian Mainland.

Locational Significance

- India is seventh largest country in the world.
- It has land boundaries of 15200 Kms and 6100 Kms long coast line.
- Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep are the important islands which are located in the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea respectively.
- India is a group of 28 States and 7 union Territories.
- India is strategically located in Indian ocean.
- It commands sea routes between Europe and Africa, South-east Asia, Far East Asia and Oceania.
- India has a good location in terms of sea and land boundaries as well as its surroundings.



Drainage System of India



rivers. Much amount of biological, chemical and industrial pollutant affluents in the river and lakes result in destroyed aquatic life and health hazards. The government has taken initiatives such as Ganga Action Plan (GAP) and the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) for the quality improvement of water.

Keeping Rivers Clean

Water is the basis of life but we are using less than 1% as freshwater. This small amount provides the freshwater to all forms of life. Therefore, it is valuable for everyone. The increasing water pollution in our fresh water sources like rivers and lakes are the cause of scarcity of water.

Cities are located on the banks of rivers and the rivers are being highly polluted. Only sewage claims about 70 percent pollution loads in Indian

Evaluate Yourself

- Q.** 'India is a country of physical diversity'. Explain it with suitable examples.
- Q.** How do the Himalayas act as natural barriers for India? Specify.
- Q.** How does the Ganga River System help in the economic development of the northern plains of India.