

Chapter- 4

OUR COUNTRY INDIA

STUDY NOTES

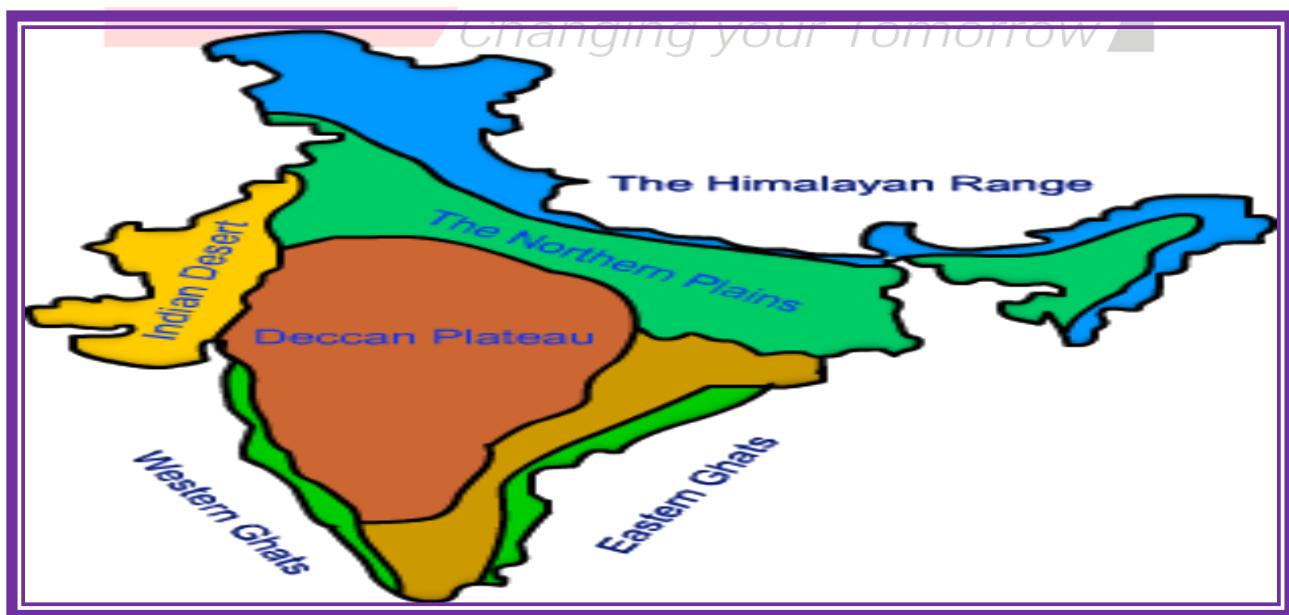
INDIA

- India is a part of continent Asia.
- It is the seventh largest country in the world.
- It is the most populated country in the world after China.
- India is called a 'land of diversity'.
- It has many landforms like mountains, plains, plateaus, deserts and islands.
- Very few countries in the world can boast of so much variety.
- This is what makes India so beautiful.

Physical Features

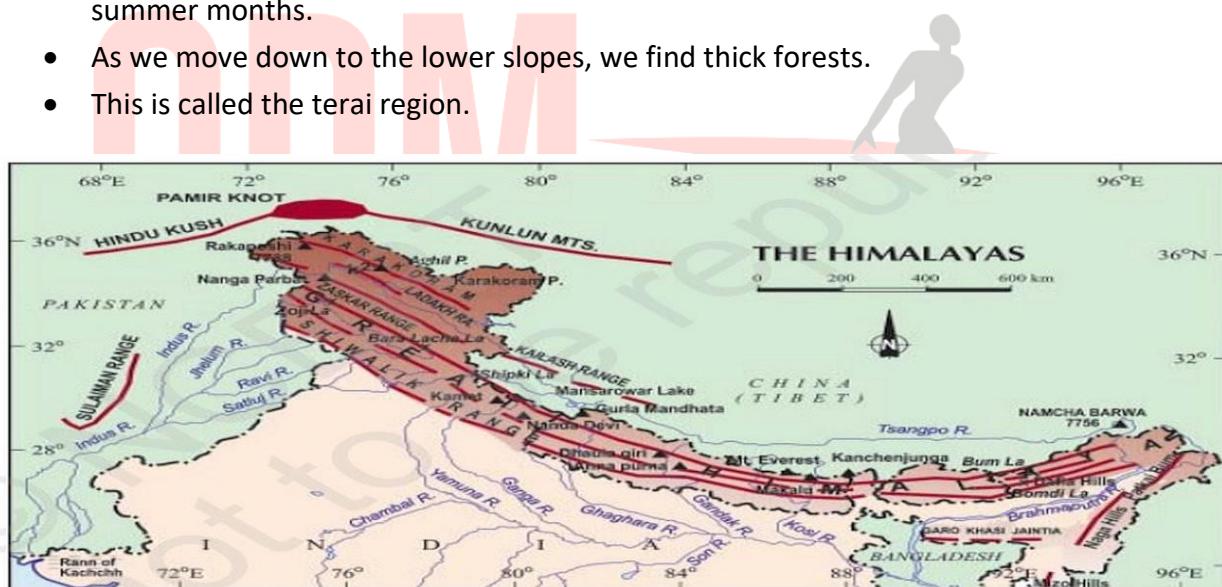
On the basis of its physical features, India can be divided into five main regions:

- The Himalayan Mountain Ranges
- The Northern Plains
- The Thar Desert
- The Deccan Plateau and the Ghats
- The Islands



The Himalayan Mountain Ranges

- Mountains are portions of the Earth that rise steeply from the surrounding area.
- A chain of mountains forms a range.
- All along the north of our country lie the mighty Himalayan mountain ranges.
- These ranges have some of the highest peaks in the world.
- Mount Everest the highest peak in the world is a part of the Himalayan range.
- The high peaks are covered with snow throughout the year and the region is extremely cold.
- Many of our big rivers like the Ganga,
- Yamuna and Brahmaputra start from the Himalayas.
- As they flow down to plains, several smaller rivers join the main rivers.
- The melting snow from the mountains keep these rivers fed through the hot and dry summer months.
- As we move down to the lower slopes, we find thick forests.
- This is called the terai region.



The Northern Plains

- Plains are vast expanses of gently rolling land.
- As we go down to the south of the Himalayas, we come to the Northern Plains of India.
- Many rivers like the Ganga, Yamuna, flow through the plains. This makes the land very fertile and most suited for cultivation.
- The region is thickly populated.
- In the plain it is very hot in summer and cold in winter.

The Thar Desert

- A large area of land covered with sand is called a desert.

- As we travel to the north- western part of our country the landscape changes. We can see miles and miles of sand.
- This area is called the Great Indian Desert or the Thar Desert.
- This region gets very little rainfall.
- The climate here is dry and hot in summer and cold in winter.
- Life in the desert is difficult so region is not thickly populated.
- The camel is commonly used in the desert for transport and it is called the ship of the desert.

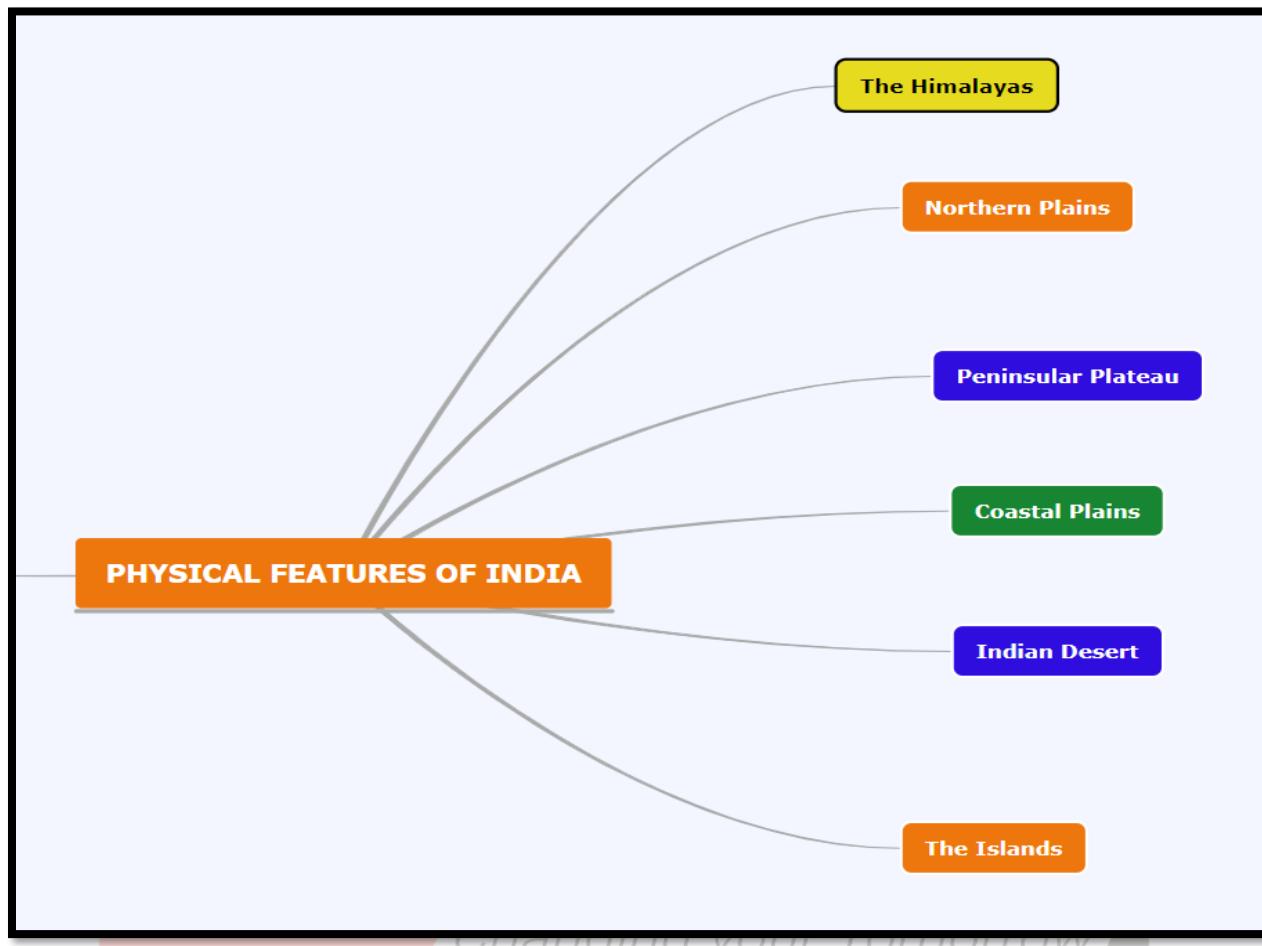
The Decan Plateau and the Ghats:

- The southern part of India is a peninsula.
- A peninsula is a piece of land jutting into the sea and surrounded by large water bodies on its three sides.
- The Indian peninsula has the Bay of Bengal to its east, the Arabian sea to its west and Indian ocean to its south.
- This part of India is called the Decan Plateau.
- A plateau is a flat-topped region that is raised above the surrounding land.
- The Deccan Plateau region has many rivers like the Krishna, Kaveri, Godavari and Mahanadi. These rivers are rain-fed.
- They often become dry during the summer, unlike the snow-fed rivers of the north.
- This region is very rich in minerals. Some parts of the plateau are covered with thick forests.
- This region has a moderate climate that is neither too hot nor too cold.
- To the west of the Decan Plateau are mountains called Western Ghats.
- To the east of the decan plateau are mountains are called Eastern Ghats.
- There are narrow stripes of plain land along the east and west coast of India. They are called coastal plains.

The Islands

- An island is a piece of land surrounded by water.
- In Arabian sea and Bay of Bengal several small islands are there.
- In the Bay of Bengal there is a group of islands called Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- In the Arabian sea there is another group of islands called the Lakshadweep Island

MEMORY MAP



Let's Know More-

Answer in one word-

- I. A piece of land surrounded by water –
- II. A land covered with sand-
- III. A piece of land surrounded by water on three sides-
- IV. A flat level land-

Let's Do

A. Write T for true and F for false sentences.

1. India is the third most populated country in the world.
2. The Himalayas is the highest mountain range in the world.

3. It is very cold at night in desert.
4. All rivers in India get water from melting snow in the mountains.
5. The rivers make the Gangetic plain very fertile.
6. It is neither too hot nor too cold in the Decan Plateau.

B. Define in a sentence.

Desert-

Peninsula-

Island-

Plateau-

Plain-

C. Answer the following.

1. Name any five rivers of India.
2. Name any two groups of islands, which are parts of India...
3. Why are the northern plains thickly populated?
4. In which region of India do you live? What kind of climate do you have in the place that you live in?

D. Multiple choice questions.

1. The _____ lies to the south of India.
a. Pacific Ocean b. Bay of Bengal c. Atlantic Ocean
2. Andaman and Nicobar Island lie in the _____.
a. Arabian sea b. Bay of Bengal c. Indian Ocean
3. India is the _____ largest country in the world.
a. Third b. fifth c. seventh
4. The Himalayas lie to the _____ of India.
a. Western Ghats b. Bay of Bengal c. Himalayas

Teacher's Note

- Draw and colour different land forms of India in project record.

Improve Your GK

- The Indian Ocean is named after India because India holds a central location which is at the head of the Indian ocean.
- India there are 28 states and 8 union territories.
- India is bordered mostly by water bodies of Arabian Sea towards its southwest, Bay of Bengal towards its southeast and Indian Ocean towards its south.

Answer**A.**

1. F
2. F
3. T
4. F
5. T
6. T

B.

1. Desert- A large area of land covered with sand.
2. peninsula- A piece of land jutting into sea and surrounded by water on three sides.
3. Island- A piece of land surrounded by water.
4. Plateau- A large area of fairly level land that is raised above the surrounding areas.
5. Plain- A flat and level land

C.

1. Rivers in India are Ganga, Yamuna, Krishna, Kaveri, Godavari.
2. Two groups of Island are
 - i. Andaman and Nicobar Island ii. Lakshadweep Island.
3. Northern Plains are thickly populated because the soils are very fertile and fertile soils provide a good place for cultivating crops. Also, the plains are surrounded by rivers like Ganga and Yamuna.
4. We live in coastal region. In this place we have moderate climate neither too hot nor too cold.

D.

1. Indian Ocean
2. Bay of Bengal
3. seventh
4. north
5. Himalayas



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