**PHYSICAL FEATURES OF INDIA**

**VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS**:

1. **Which factor modified the relief features of India ?**

**Ans**: Besides geological formations, a lot of processes such as weathering, erosion and deposition have created and modified the relief to its present form.

1. **Where are most of the volcanoes and earthquakes in the world located ?**

**Ans**: Most volcanoes and earthquakes in the world are located at plate margins, but some do occur within the plates.

1. **Which is the most ancient landmasses on the earth’s surface ?**

**Ans**: The Peninsular Plateau constitutes one of the ancient landmasses on the earth’s surface.

1. **Which is the most accepted theory related to the formation of physical features ? What does it postulate ?**

**Ans**: Earth scientists have explained the formation of physical features with the help of one of the plausible theory known as the “Theory of Plate Tectonics”. According to this theory, the crust (upper part) of the earth has been formed out of seven major and some minor plates.

1. **What are tectonic plates ?**

**Ans**: The convectional currents below the earth’s crust split the crust into a number of pieces. Which are called tectonic plates, e.g. Eurasia plate, Indo-Australian.

1. **What is Gondwananaland ?**

**Ans**: It is the southern part of the ancient super continent Pangea with Angara in the northern part.

1. **Which continents of today were part of the Gondwanaland ?**

**Ans**: The Gondwanaland included India, Australia, South Africa, South America and Antarctica as one single landmass.

1. **Name the mountain ranges in the eastern part of India forming its boundary with Myanmar.**

**Ans**: Purvachal.

1. **Name the ranges that comprise Purvachal.**

**Ans**: Patkai hills, the Naga hills, Manipur hills and the Mizo hills.

1. **What are Shiwalik hills composed of ?**

**Ans**: Shiwalik ranges are composed of unconsolidated sediments brought down by rivers from the main Himalayan ranges.

1. **Which range of Himalayas is known for famous valleys of Kashmir, Kangra, Kullu and hill stations ?**

**Ans**: Himachal range.

1. **Where are mainly snow-covered peak found in Himalayas ?**

**Ans**: Snow covered peaks are found mainly in Himadri range of Himalayas.

1. **Name the part of the Himalayas lying between the Kali and Tista rivers ?**

**Ans**: Nepal Himalayas.

1. **Which river has the largest inhabited riverine islands in the world ?**

**Ans**: Brahmaputra.

1. **What is ‘Bhangar’ ?**

**Ans**: The largest part of the northern plains is formed of older alluvium. It lies above the flood plains of the river and creates a terrace like feature, which is known as ‘Bhangar’.

1. **Why is Northern Plain most productive part of India ?**

**Ans**: With a rich soil cover combined with adequate water supply and favourable climate Northern Plain is agriculturally a very productive part of India.

1. **What is the extent of Northern Plains of India ?**

**Ans**: It spreads over an area of 7 lakh sq. km. The plain being about 2400 km long and 240 to 320 km broad.

1. **Which three main river system helped in forming Northern Plains ?**

**Ans**: The Indus, the Ganga and the Brahmaputra.

1. **How has Northern Plain become a fertile plain ?**

**Ans**: The plain is formed of alluvium soil. The depositions of alluvium in a large basin lying at the foothills of the Himalayas over millions of years make Northern Plains fertile.

1. **How are riverine islands formed ?**

**Ans**: The rivers coming from northern plains are involved in depositional work in the lower course, due to gentle slope the velocity of the river decrease causes in the formation of riverine islands.

1. **Define distributaries.**

**Ans**:The rivers in their lower course split into numerous channels due to the deposition of silt. These channels are known as distributaries.

1. **What is doab ?**

**Ans**: A tract of land between two rivers is called a doab. It is made up of two words ‘do’ meaning ‘two’ and ‘ab’ meaning ‘water’.

1. **To which parts are Ganga plains extended ?**

**Ans**: The Ganga plain extends between Ghaggar and Teesta rivers. It is spread over the Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand and West Bengal.

1. **What is “Bhabar” ?**

**Ans**: The rivers after descending from the mountains deposits pebbles in a narrow belt of about 8 to 16 km in which lying parallel to the slopes of the Shiwaliks are called ‘bhabar’.

1. **Which region is known as ‘Terai Region’ ?**

**Ans**: South of bhabar, the streams and rivers re-emerge and create a wet swampy and marshy region called Terai.

1. **What does Peninsular Plateau consists of ?**

**Ans**: Peninsular plateau consists of old crystalline, igneous and metamorphic rocks.

1. **What are the two broad divisions of Peninsular Plateau ?**

**Ans**: Central Highlands and Deccan Plateau.

1. **What is the highest peak in the Eastern Ghats ?**

**Ans**: Mahendragiri (1502 mt)

1. **Name the highest peak of South India.**

**Ans**: Anai Mudi (1502 mt)

1. **Which type of rainfall is most prominent in the Western Ghats.**

**Ans**: Orographic rainfall.

1. **Name the important passes of Western Ghats.**

**Ans**: Thal, Bhor and Pal Ghats.

1. **Why has Deccan Trap region black soil ?**

**Ans**: Deccan trap region is of volcanic origin hence the rocks are igneous. These rocks have denuded over time and are responsible for the formation of black soil.

1. **Name the famous hill stations of Eastern Ghats.**

**Ans**: The famous hill stations of Udagamandalam, popularly known as Ooty, and the Kodaikanal are located in Eastern Ghats.

1. **Name the largest river of the Indian desert.**

**Ans**: Luni.

1. **What is the location of Indian desert ?**

**Ans**: The Indian desert lies towards the western margins of the Aravali Hills.

1. **What are Barchans ?**

**Ans**: They are crescent shaped dunes.

1. **Name the western coastal strip, south of Goa.**

**Ans**: Kannad.

1. **What is the name given to the southern part of eastern coastal plains ?**

**Ans**: Coromandel.

1. **Name the Northern part of Eastern Coastal plain.**

**Ans**: Northern Circar.

1. **What are the local names of the Western Coastal Plains ?**

**Ans**: The northern part of the coast is referred as the Konkan (Mumbai-Goa), the central stretch is called the Kannad Plain (Karnataka) while the Southern stretch is known as the Malabar Coast (Kerala).

1. **Which island group is composed of corals ?**

**Ans**: Lakshadweep.

1. **Which is the largest salt water lake of India ?**

**Ans**: Chilika.

1. **Where is Chilika located ?**

**Ans**: The Chilika lake is the largest salt water lake in India. It lies in Odisha, to the south of the Mahanadi Delta.

1. **Which is broader and level coastal plain ?**

**Ans**: Eastern coastal plain.

1. **Name the administrative headquarters of Lakshadweep.**

**Ans**: Kavaratti.

1. **Which physiographic division is the storehouse of minerals ?**

**Ans**: Peninsular Plateau.

1. **What are corals made up of ?**

**Ans**: Coral polyps are short-lived microscopic organisms, which live in colonies.

1. **Which island group of India is volcanic in origin ?**

**Ans**: Andaman and Nicobar islands.

1. **How are Lakshadweep Islands formed ?**

**Ans**: Lakshadweep group of islands is made of small coral island. They are in horse-shoe or sing-shaped called atolls.

1. **How are Andaman & Nicobar Islands formed ?**

**Ans**: These islands are formed by Volcanic eruptions in the Bay of Bengal.