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Geography of India – Part 1

India is the seventh largest country in the world in terms of area which makes it an obvious place to have vast geographical features. It lies on the Indian Plate, a northern portion of the Indo-Australian Plate. The Indian subcontinent is surrounded by three different water bodies and is easily recognisable on the world map.

Geographical Features

The country covers an area of about 3.28 million sq km. The mainland of India extends between 8°4' and 37°6' N latitude and 68°7' and 97°25' E longitude. The Tropic of Cancer 23°30' N divides India into almost two halves. The land frontier of the country is 15,200 km and the total length of the coastline is 7,517 kilometers. Indian peninsula tapers southward resulting in the division of the Indian Ocean into two water bodies – the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea. In India, there is a great diversity of landforms such as lofty mountains, deep valleys, extensive plains, and a number of islands.

Location

- The Union of India is the seventh largest country in the world covering an area of 32,87,590 square kilometers and it is an important country of south Asia.
- South Asia has a total area of about 4.488 million sq. km out of which India has the largest area (3.287 sq. km). It occupies 73.2 % of total area.
- It is 4 times largest than Pakistan which is second largest in South Asia. India is 12 times largest than UK and 8 times largest than Japan.
- The mainland stretches from latitude 8°4' north to 37°6' north and from longitude 68°7' east to 97°25' east of Greenwich. The latitudinal and longitudinal extent of the country is almost same in degrees i.e. about 30 degrees.
- The southernmost point in Indian Territory, (in Great Nicobar Islands) is the Indira Point (6°45'), while Kanyakumari, also known as Cape Comorin, is the

southernmost point of Indian mainland. The country thus lies wholly in the northern and eastern hemispheres.

- The 82°30' E longitude is taken as Standard Time Meridian of India, as it passes through the middle of India (from Naini, near Allahabad.) Hence Naini, Near Allahabad is the Standard Time of India.
- The country is of a vast size and measures about 3,214 kilometers from north to south and about 2,933 kilometers from west to east.
- Indian Standard Time:- GMT +05:30
- Telephone Country Code:- +91
- Coastline:- 7,516.6 km encompassing the mainland, Lakshadweep Islands, and the Andaman & Nicobar Islands

India Facts

Territorial Sea	12 nm (nautical miles)
Contiguous Zone	24 nm
Exclusive economic Zone	200 nm
Continental Shelf	200 nm or to the edge of the continental margin
Longest River	Ganga
Largest Lake	Lake Chilka
Highest Point	Mt. K ² (8611 m)
Highest Point of Himalaya	Kanchan Junga (8,598 m)
Lowest Point	Kuttanad (-2.2 m)
Northernmost Point	Siachen Glacier near Karakoram
Southernmost Point	Indira Point, Great Nicobar, Andaman & Nicobar Islands
Southernmost Point of India (Mainland)	Cape Comorin (Kanya Kumari)
Westernmost Point	West of Ghuar Mota, Gujarat
Easternmost Point	Kibithu, Arunachal Pradesh
Highest Altitude	Kanchenjunga, Sikkim
Lowest Altitude	Kuttanad (Kerala)

PHYSIOGRAPHIC REGIONS

On the basis of relief features, tectonic history and stratigraphy, India can be divided into several physical units.

1. The Great Mountains of the North.

India comprises the Himalayas in the North and Northeastern region, which divides the country from the Tibetan plateau. The Himalayan range is further divided into different ranges:

- **Pir Panjal Range.** This is the largest range of the lower Himalayas and runs from the east-southeast to west-northwest. The Pir Panjal pass lies to the west of Srinagar and comprises Banihal Pass, Sinthal Pass, Rohtang La, Munawar Pass and Haji Pir Pass.
- **Ladakh Range.** This range extends from the northern side of Leh to the Tibetan border. It comprises Digar La Pass and Khardung La Pass. Considered as a segment of the Karakoram mountain range, the Ladakh range has an extreme climate with the main town called Leh regarded as the trade centre for fine pashmina wool.
- **Zaskar Range.** This range is spread over an area that starts from southeastern boundaries of Kashmir and extends to the eastern limit of Baltistan. Singge La Pass, Runrang La Pass, Fotu (Fatu) La Pass, Marbal Pass and Zoji La Pass are some of the passes of this range.
- **Dhauladhar Range.** This range rises from the plains of India to the north of Mandi and Kangra. Hanuman ji Ka Tiba or the 'White Mountain' is the highest peak of this range.
- **East Karakoram Range.** This range separates India from the Central Asia and is also one of the laeger ranges of Asia. It is home to the second highest peak of the world, K2.

2. Indo-Gangetic Plain

The Indo-Gangetic Plain is also known as Indus-Ganga and the North Indian River Plain. It is dominated by three major rivers - the Ganges, the Indus and the Brahmaputra. It covers a large area of about 7,00,000 sq km in the Northern and Eastern India. The plain is divided into four divisions:

- **The Bhabhar Belt.** It is a narrow belt that lies in the foothills of Himalayas and comprises pebbles and rocks brought down by the streams.
- **The Terai Belt.** It is located next to the Bhabhar region and is made up of newer alluvium.
- **The Bangar Belt.** It includes older alluvium and has a low upland in the Gangetic plains which is covered by the laterite deposits.

- **The Khadir Belt.** It lies on the lowland areas after the Bangar belt and is made up of newer alluvium which is brought down by the rivers which flow down to this plain.

3. The Peninsular Plateau

The Peninsular Plateau is a tableland and its characteristic features include shallow valleys and rounded hills. It is broadly divided into three different plateaus:

- **The Deccan Plateau.** It is a triangular shaped plateau and is bounded by the Vindhyas and the Western and Eastern Ghats. It stretches to eight states of India and covers a total area of 1.9 million sq km.
- **The Malwa Plateau.** The Malwa Plateau is spread across the parts of Gujarat, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. Chambal River and its tributaries find their way in this plateau and Mahi River also flows through its Western region.
- **The Chota Nagpur Plateau.** Situated in the eastern India, Chota Nagpur Plateau covers the parts of Jharkhand, Bihar, Odisha and Chhattisgarh.

4. The Coastal Plains

The Coastal India spans Arabian Sea in the West to the Bay of Bengal in the East. The Eastern Coastal Plains lie between the Eastern Ghats and the Bay of Bengal; and stretches from Tamil Nadu to West Bengal. The rivers which flow through it are Krishna, Kaveri, Godavari and Mahanadi. It is divided into six different areas- the Southern Andhra Pradesh, the Kanyakumari coast, the Mahanadi delta, the Coromandel coast and sandy coast.

The Western Coastal Plains is sandwiched between the Western Ghats and the Arabian Sea and extends from Gujarat in the north and covers the regions of Maharashtra, Goa, Kerala and Karnataka. There are numerous rivers and backwaters in this region. It is divided into two parts - the Malabar Coast and the Konkan.

5. The Thar Desert

The Thar Desert is one of the largest deserts of the world. It extends across Gujarat, Haryana and Punjab and covers over 60% of the geographical area of Rajasthan. It also extends to Pakistan and is known as Cholistan Desert there. Luni is the only river in this desert and it receives very little rainfall. Major portion of this desert consists of craggy

rocks, sand dunes and compacted salt-lake bottoms. The speedy winds that flow with force make the nature of the soil get eroded more often. It has arid climate and the vegetation is scanty.

6. The Islands

There are two major groups of islands in India which are also classified as the union territories- the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and the Lakshadweep Islands. Lakshadweep is located in the Arabian Sea and covers an area of 32 sq km. It has a total of about 35 islands and islets. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands is larger in size and comprises 572 islands. Andaman is located in the north and Nicobar is located in the south. Some of the other important islands in India are Daman and Diu, Majuli, Salsette Island and Sriharikota.

MAJOR MOUNTAIN RANGES IN INDIA

- **The Himalayan Range.** This is the world's highest mountain range and the tallest peak of the world, Mt. Everest, is also a part of it. It acts as a barrier against the frigid katabatic winds which flow down from Central Asia and protects India from its effects.
- **Patkai Range.** Patkai or Purvanchal lies on the east of India-Burma border. It comprises three hill ranges- Garo-Khasi-Jaintia in Meghalaya, Lushai hills and Patkai-Bum.
- **Karakoram Range.** It lies in the disputed areas of Jammu and Kashmir and comprises more than 60 peaks. K2, the second highest peak of the world, is also a part of this range. Besides, the Hindu Kush range, Siachen and Biafo Glacier also a part of this range.
- **Shivalik Hills.** The literal meaning of Shivalik is 'tresses of India'. It extends from Arunachal Pradesh to West Bengal and from Uttarakhand to Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh. Jammu, Kangra and Vaishno Devi are a part of this range.
- **Vindhya Range.** This range spreads across central India and extends across 1,050 km. It is believed to be formed from the Aravalli Mountains. Due to its geographical location in central India, it separates Northern and Southern India.

- **Aravalli Range.** This is India's oldest mountain range and spreads across the parts of Rajasthan, Delhi and Haryana. Guru Shikhar in Mount Abu is the highest peak of this range, which rise to 1,722 m.
- **Satpura Range.** This range stretches from Gujarat and runs to Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.
- **Western and Eastern Ghats.** Western Ghats are also known as Sahyadri Mountains and runs parallel to Indian peninsula's western coast. Eastern Ghats or Purva Ghat is a discontinuous range of mountains which runs along the eastern coast of India.

STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES

There are 29 states in India, located in the total area of 3,287,263 sq km. The largest of all Indian states is Rajasthan, which covers an area of 3,42,239 sq km. It shares its border with Pakistan on its west, Gujarat on its southwest, Madhya Pradesh on its southeast and Punjab on its north.

Goa is the smallest state in India, located merely in 3,702 sq km. The state is located to the southwest of India. Uttar Pradesh lying to the northeast of the country is the most populous state. Gujarat, lying on the extreme west of the country, is one of the most prosperous of all Indian states. The strikingly beautiful Jammu and Kashmir is the northernmost state in the country. India's eastern border is bordered by states of Manipur, Meghalaya, Assam, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Arunachal Pradesh. All these states together are located in the 7% of the total area of the country. The union territories in India are seven in numbers. Delhi, the capital of India, also falls under this category. The other union territories of the country include Chandigarh, in the north; Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, in the west; Lakshadweep, in the southwest; and Puducherry and Andaman and Nicobar Islands, in the southeast of the country.

WATER RESOURCES

India is surrounded by water from three sides – Arabian Sea in the west, Bay of Bengal in the east and Indian Ocean in the south. There are many water bodies in India in the form of rivers, canals, gulfs, backwaters etc. There are 12 major rivers in the country and they originate from any one of the three watersheds. There is a large reserve of rivers – big and small, and all these rivers are revered in the country other than merely being the sources of

water. The river Brahmaputra is a trans-boundary river. It originates in Tibet and enters India in Arunachal Pradesh and passes through Assam before finally making its way through Bangladesh. The river Ganga is the longest river in India and is considered to be the most pious river in the country. It has several tributaries including river Yamuna, which is the only water body near the national capital - New Delhi. River Chambal, a tributary of Yamuna passes through Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. The other major rivers in India include Narmada River, originating at Amarkantak in Madhya Pradesh, river Godavari, originating at Trayambakeshwar in Maharashtra, river Krishna originating at Mahabaleshwar, river Kaveri passing through Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, Mahanadi River flowing through Chhattisgarh and Odisha. The other rivers in the country include Mahi, Betwa, Penner, Kosi, Tungabhadra and several others. Gulf of Mannar, Gulf of Kutch and Gulf of Cambay are the major gulfs of the country. More...

POLITICAL BOUNDARIES

India shares its international borders with Pakistan on its west, and Nepal, China and Bhutan on its northeast. It is surrounded by Burma and Bangladesh on its east. Sri Lanka lies to the south of India and the union territory Andaman and Nicobar Islands lie close to Thailand and Indonesia. The political boundaries of Pakistan and Bangladesh with India are traced according to the Radcliffe Line. The Line of Control (LoC) delineates the borders of India and Pakistan and serves as a boundary between the administered areas of Kashmir in both the countries. The MacMohan Line is a border that divides India and China and runs along the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jammu and Kashmir and Sikkim. India-Bangladesh border is one of the longest borders of world and touches Indian states like Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura and Arunachal Pradesh.

CLIMATE

India has a variety of climates, varying from arid desert in the west, alpine climate in the Himalayan north to the humid tropical regions which support the island territories along with the rainforests in the southwest.

The climate is altered by the Thar Desert and the Himalayas. Some areas in the north have severe summers with extreme winters, with the temperature reaching to freezing point. The country encounters four different types of seasons - winter, summer, monsoon, and post-monsoon. In some states, the temperature in summers rise up to 45°C and minimum

temperature decreases to 15°C only. In winters, the average temperature is about 10–15°C. The highest temperature recorded in India so far is 50.6°C in Alwar, Rajasthan. The lowest temperature was recorded in Kashmir at –45°C.

The map will help you locate all these and more. All the international boundaries of the country are marked in pink lines. Grey dotted lines stand for the state boundaries and will help you to be familiar with all the Indian states and their neighbours. The blue lines scattered throughout the map represent all the major rivers in the country.

Locational Advantage:– India is a unique country as it is easily accessible to other parts of Asia, Africa, Europe and Americas. Its cultural influences have crossed its border from time immemorial and reached far off lands. It acts as a bridge head between developed and developing countries of the world and between the East and the West. India's strength lies in its geography as much as in its culture. Since the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869, distance between India and Europe has been reduced by 7000 kms. India enjoys a favourable ocean routes from East and South-East Asia and Australia to Africa and Europe pass through Indian Ocean. India is connected with the Cape of Good Hope and the Suez Canal. India can also reach Canada and the USA through the Strait of Malacca after crossing the Pacific Ocean.

INDIA GEOLOGICAL ERA

India has its own geological eras and periods. The standard geological eras are

1. The Pre-Cambrian (over 570 million years old)
2. The Paleozoic (245–570 million years old)
3. The Mesozoic (66–245 million years old)
4. The Cenozoic (66 million years old to the present)

<>

The Indian Geological eras are

1. The Archean or Early Pre-Cambrian
2. The Purana or Late Pre Cambrian
3. The Dravidian (400–570 million years old)
4. The Aryan (400 million years old to the present)

The Pre Cambrian derives its names from Wales in the United Kingdom. The periods got their names from places where rock formations of that period were formed. The Pre-

Cambrians do not contain fossils of plants and animals. The Paleozoic have the fossils of very early lives, the Mesozoic have middle lives and the Cenozoic recent lives.

Major Geological Formations of India					
Indian Era	Standard Geological Eras and Periods	Duration of Period (in million years)	Age from beginning (in million years)	Major Formation in Peninsula	Major Formations in Extra Peninsula
Aryan	Cenozoic Quaternary (Recent Pleistocene) Tertiary (Pliocene Miocene) Eocene Mesozoic Cretaceous Jurassic Triassic	Less than 2	2 or 3	Newer Alluvial deserts, laterites	Formation of Ganga Plains
Dravidain	Paleozoic Permian Carboniferous Devonian Silurian Ordovician	64	-	Tertiary Coastal Deposits	Formation of Himalayas
Purana	Pre-Cambrian Late Pre-Cambrian	-	570	Vindhayan Cuddaph Dharwar Aravalli Archean systems	Archean Gneis

AREA WISE

Rank	State	Area (km²)
1	Rajasthan	342239
2	Madhya Pradesh	308252
3	Maharashtra	307713
4	Uttar Pradesh	240928

5	Jammu and Kashmir	222236
6	Gujarat	196021
7	Karnataka	191791
8	Andhra Pradesh	160205
9	Odisha	155707
10	Chhattisgarh	135191

INDIA AND BOUNDARIES

Following are the India Area and Boundaries details :-

- India stretches 3,214 km from N to S & 2933 km from E to W.
- Area:- 32,87,263 sq. km. Accounts for 2.4 % of total world area and 16 % of the population
- Mainland India has a coastline of 6,100 km. Including the Lakshadweep and Andaman and Nicobar, the coastline measures about 7516. km
- In India, total land mass is
 1. Plains :- 43.3 %
 2. Plateaus :- 27.7 %
 3. Hills :- 18.6 %
 4. Mountains:- 10.7 %
- In the south, on the eastern side, the Gulf of Mannar & the Palk Strait separate India from Sri Lanka
- Total land neighbours of India are 7 . These are
 1. Pakistan
 2. Afghanistan
 3. China
 4. Nepal
 5. Sri Lanka
 6. Bhutan
 7. Bangladesh and
 8. Myanmar
- Indias Islands include the Andaman & Nicobar Islands in Bay of Bangal & Lakshadweep, Minocy & Amindive Islands in the Arabian Sea

POSITION OF STATES

- Uttar Pradesh border maximum number of states:- 8 (Uttarakhand, Himachal

Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, MP, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Bihar)

- Tropic of Cancer passes through 8 (Eight) states:- Gujara, Rajasthan, MP, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Tripura and Mizoram.
- India standard Meridian ($82^{\circ}30'$ E meridian) passes through UP, MP, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh.

INDIAN STATES ON INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARIES

Bordering Pakistan	Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujrat
Bordering China	Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh
Bordering Nepal	Bihar, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim and West Bengal
Bordering Bangladesh	West Bengal, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Tripura and Asom
Bordering Bhutan	West Bengal, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and Asom
Bordering Myanmar	Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram
Bordering Afghanistan	Jammu and Kashmir (Pakistan-Occupied Area).

RIVERS OF INDIA

Rivers are natural flowing water bodies, generally of fresh water, that flow towards either an ocean, a lake, a sea or another river. They are a part of the hydrological cycle and the water in the rivers comes from different sources. They begin as small streams and gradually expand in size as more water gets added to them. Rivers are the source of water for many purposes such as drinking, irrigation, transportation, drainage, hydro-electricity, food and other activities.

The subcontinent of India has many rivers. The rivers in India that flow into the sea along the coast that begins from the Bay of Bengal in the east move along the Indian coast and then northward along the Arabian Sea. There are many rivers in the country that flow into the Bay of Bengal or the Arabian Sea. There are rivers in the country that flow to the neighbouring countries. The lengths of the rivers vary depending upon the area they cover. The Indus River is the longest river in India and flows through Pakistan. The Ganges is also one of the longest rivers in the country and considered the most sacred river in India due to the mythological beliefs associated with it. The Yamuna River is a tributary of Ganges and

has sacred values. The Brahmaputra River is another major river of the continent of Asia as well as India.

The above map will give you an insight into the top 10 rivers in India. In the above physical map of the Indian subcontinent, the rivers are marked in blue colour highlighting the places where they flow, including other countries as well. To know more about the state from where they pass, you can check the state borders marked with black dotted lines. The international boundaries are marked in purple dotted lines.

Top 10 Rivers in India by Length

Sl. No.	Name	Length (km)	Originates From	Ends in	Places Benefitted
1	Indus	2900	In Tibet Kalish Range 5080 mts.	Arabian sea	India and Pakistan
2	Brahmaputra	2900	Lake Manasarovar	Bay of Bengal	North Eastern state
3	Ganga	2510	Gangothri	Bay of Bengal	Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bihar, West Bengal
4	Godavari	1450	Nasik Hills	Bay of Bengal	South-easterly part of Andhra Pradesh
5	Narmada	1290	Amarkantak hill in Madhya Pradesh	Arabian sea	Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra
6	Krishna	1290	Near Mahabaleshwar in Maharashtra	Bay of Bengal	Maharashtra & Andhrapradesh
7	Yamuna	1211	Garhwall in Yamunotri	Bay of Bengal	Delhi, Haryana and UP
8	Mahanadi	890	Amarkantak Plateau	Bay of Bengal	Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Orissa
9	Kaveri	760	Hills of Coorg, Karnataka	Bay of Bengal	Karnataka and Tamilnadu
10	Tapi	724	Bettul	Arabian sea	Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra

FOLLOWING ARE THE IMPORTANT RIVERS OF INDIA

Name	Origin From	Fall into	Length (km)
Ganges	Combined Sources	Bay of Bengal	2525
Satluj	Mansarovar Rakas Lakes	Chenab	1050
Indus	Near Mansarovar Lake	Arabian Sea	2880
Ravi	Kullu Hills near Rohtang Pass	Chenab	720
Beas	Near Rohtang Pass	Satluj	470
Jhelum	Verinag in Kashmir	Chenab	725
Yamuna	Yamunotri	Ganga	1375
Chambal	M.P.	Yamuna	1050
Ghagra	Matsatung Glacier	Ganga	1080
Kosi	Near Gosain Dham Park	Ganga	730
Betwa	Vindhyanchal	Yamuna	480
Son	Amarkantak	Ganga	780
Brahmaputra	Near Mansarovar Lake	Bay of Bengal	2900
Narmada	Amarkantak	Gulf of Khambat	1057
Tapti	Betul Distt. Of MP	Gulf of Khambat	724
Mahanadi	Raipur Distt. In Chattisgarh	Bay of Bengal	858
Luni	Aravallis	Rann of kuchchh	450
Ghaggar	Himalayas	Near Fatehabad	494
Sabarmati	Aravallis	Gulf of Khambat	416
Krishna	Western ghats	Bay of Bengal	1327
Godavari	Nasik distt. In Maharashtra	Bay of Bengal	1465
Cauvery	Brahmagir Range of Western Ghats	Bay of Bengal	805
Tungabhadra	Western Ghats	Krishna River	640

IMPORTANT NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

National Highway	Route	Distance
NH-1	Jalandhar Uri	663
NH-1A	New Delhi-Ambala-Jalandhar-Amritsar	456
NH-2	Delhi-Mathura-Agra-Kanpur-Allahabad-Varanasi-Kolkata	1465
NH-3	Agra-Gwalior-Nasik-Mumbai	1161
NH-4	Thane and Chennai via Pune and Belgaun	1235

NH-5	Kolkata - Chennai	1533
NH-6	Kolkata Dhule	1949
NH-7	Varanasi Kanyakumari	2369
NH-8	Delhi-Mumbai-(vai Jaipur, Baroda and Ahmedabad)	1428
NH-9	Mumbai-Vijaywada	841
NH-10	Delhi-Fazilka	403
NH-11	Agra- Bikaner	582
NH-12	Jabalpur-Jaipur	890
NH-13	Sholapur-Mangalore	691
NH-15	Pathankot-Samakhiali	1526
NH-17	Panvel-Edapally	1269
NH-22	Ambala-Shipkitr	459
NH-28	Lucknow-Barauni	570
NH-31	Barhi-Guwahati	1125
NH-37	Panchratna (near Goalpara) Saiknoaghat	680
NH-44	Shillong-Sabroom	630
NH-49	Cochin-Dhanshkodi	440
NH-52	Baihata-Junction NH-47 (near Saikhoaghat)	850
NH-58	Delhi-Mana	538
NH-65	Ambala-Pali	690
NH-75	Gwalior-Ranchi	955
NH-76	Pindwara-Allahabad	1007
NH-78	Katni-Gumla	559
NH-86	Kanpur-Dewas	674
NH-91	Ghaziabad-Kanpur	405
NH-150	Aizawl-Kohima	700
NH-200	Raipur-Chandikhal	740
NH-205	Ananthapur-Chennai	442
NH-209	Dindigul-Bengaluru	456
NH-211	Solapur-Dhule	400
NH-217	Raipur-Gopalpur	508
NH-220	Kollam (Quilon)-Teui	265

LIST OF MAJOR EARTHQUAKES IN INDIA

Date	Location	Magnitude
June 16, 1819	Kutch, Gujarat	8
Jan 10, 1869	Near Cachar, Assam	7.5
May 30, 1885	Sopore, Jammu and Kashmir	7
June 12, 1897	Shillong Plateau, Meghalaya	8.7
April 4, 1905	Kangra, Himachal Pradesh	8
July 8, 1918	Srimangal, Assam	7.6
July 2, 1930	Dhubri, Assam	7.1
Jan 15, 1934	Bihar-Nepal Border	8.3
June 26, 1941	Andaman Islands	8.1
Oct 23, 1943	Assam	7.2
Aug 15, 1950	Arunachal Pradesh-China Border	8.5
July 21, 1956	Anjar, Gujarat	7
Dec 10, 1967	Koyna, Maharashtra	6.5
Jan 19, 1975	Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh	6.2
Aug 06, 1988	Manipur-Myanmar Border	6.6
Aug 21, 1988	Bihar-Nepal Border	6.4
Oct 20, 1991	Uttarkashi, up hills	6.6
Sept 30, 1993	Latur-Osmanabad, Maharashtra	6.3
May 20, 1997	Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh	6
Mar 29, 1999	Chamoli District, Uttar Pradesh	6.8
Jan 26, 2001	Bhuj, Gujarat	7.7

NATIONAL PARKS IN INDIA AND WILD LIFE SANCTUARIES

Following are the National Parks in India with their location

Gir Forests	Home of Asiatic Lion, In Gujrat
Kaziranga Sanctuary	One horned rhino, in Asom,
Manas Sanctuary	One horned rhino, in Asom,
Chandraprabha Sanctuary	Home of Asiatic Lion, in UP
Ghana or Keoladeo Bird Sanctuary	In Bharatpur, Home of tiger
Dachigam Sanctuary	For Hangul, In Kashmir
Corbett National Park	In Uttarakhand, Home of tiger
Kanha National Park	In MP

Shiv Puri National Park	In MP
Hazaribagh National Park	In Jharkhand
Pariyar Game Sanctuary	In Kerala
Dudhwa National Park	In UP
Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary	In TN
Nokrek National Park	In Meghalaya
Sariska Sanctuary	In Rajasthan
Ranthambhor National Park	In Rajasthan
Namdapha National Park	In Arunachal Pradesh
Kelbut Lmjo Floating National Park	In Manipur
Palamau tiger project	In Bihar
Simlipal National Park	In Orrisa
Ranganthitoo Bird Sanctuary	In Mysur, Karnataka
Nagarhore National Park	In Karnataka
Mudumalai Sanctuary	In TN.
Balpakaram Sanctuary	In Meghalaya
Bandipur Sanctuary	Along the Karnataka- Tamil Nadu Border
Jaldapara Sanctuary	In West Bengal. For rthinos
Wild Ass Sanctuary	In Rann of Kutch, Gujarat, for wild ass.

STATES HAVING LARGEST FOREST COVER IN INDIA

Rank	States with Highest Forest Cover 2013	Total Forest Cover in Sq kms
1	Madhya Pradesh	77,522
2	Arunachal Pradesh	67,321
3	Chhattisgarh	55,621
4	Maharashtra	50,632
5	Odisha	50,347
6	Andhra Pradesh	46,116
7	Karnataka	36,132
8	Assam	27,671
9	Uttarakhand	24,508
10	Tamil Nadu	23,844

SEISMIC ZONES

The Geological Survey of India (G. S. I.) first published the seismic zoning map of the country in the year 1935. With numerous modifications made afterwards, this map was

initially based on the amount of damage suffered by the different regions of India because of earthquakes. Color coded in different shades of the color red, this map shows the four distinct seismic zones of India. Following are the varied seismic zones of the nation,

- Zone - II: This is said to be the least active seismic zone.
- Zone - III: It is included in the moderate seismic zone.
- Zone - IV: This is considered to be the high seismic zone.
- Zone - V: It is the highest seismic zone.

MAJOR PORTS IN INDIA

Following are the major Ports in India.

Western Coast	Eastern Coast
Kandla (child of partition)	Kolkata-Haldia (riverine port)
Mumbai (busiest and biggest)	Paradip (exports raw iron to Japan)
Jawahar Lal Nehru (fastest growing)	Vishakhapatnam (deepest port)
Marmugao (naval base also)	Chennai (oldest and artificial)
Mangalore (exports Kudremukh iron-ore)	Ennore (most modern-in private hands)
Cochin (natural Harbour)	Tuticorin (southernmost)

Few Facts about some port.- Among major ports, Mumbai is the biggest. Kandla is a tidal port. Marmugao enjoys the second position by value of the tonnage of the bulk of which is export of Iron core. Vishakhapatnam is the deepest land-locked and protected port. Chennai has an artificial harbour, Kolkata is a riverine port, Haldia has a fully equipped containerised berth.

Shipping.- Overseas shipping has an extremely important role to play in India's international trade. The country has the largest merchant shipping fleet among developing countries and ranks 17th in the world in shipping tonnage. There were 102 shipping companies in country operating as on 31 March 2000, includes shipping corporation of India, a public sector undertaking.

ABOUT INDIA

India is the seventh largest country in the world and covers a total area of 3,287,263 sq km. The shoreline of the country extends for 7,517 km and the longest river of the country is the holy Ganga or Ganges which is 2,510 km long. You will notice four separate regions in the country - the plains, the mountains, the southern peninsula and the desert.

The eastern and middle portion of India is made up of productive Indo-Gangetic plains. The

Thar Desert in Rajasthan is located to the northwest. The terra firma in southern India is nearly wholly made up of the Deccan plateau. There are two important mountain ranges in South India that are closely located to the seashores and they are the Western Ghats and Eastern Ghats mountain ranges. The Aravallis and the Vindhya are the other well-known mountain ranges of India.

The country offers ample moneymaking opportunities to the real estate agents since the international travelers are frequently keen to purchase or hire hill resorts, bungalows, beach houses, and these are offered by the regional inhabitants on mortgage. India shares its international boundaries with Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, China, Myanmar and Bangladesh.

The Ganges, Son, Brahmaputra, Chambal, Yamuna, and Gogra are the major rivers of India. All these rivers contribute to the agricultural growth of the country.

Physiologically, the country can be divided into the following areas:

- The northern mountains of the Himalayas
- The Indo-Gangetic Plain
- The Peninsular or Deccan Plateau
- Central Highlands
- West Coast (Konkan, Malabar coasts)
- East Coast (The Coromandel coast to the south)
- The Great Indian Desert (also named as Thar Desert in Rajasthan) and Rann of Kutch
- The Northeastern mountain ranges bordering Assam Valley
- The Brahmaputra River Valley in Assam
- The Islands of the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea.

The major peaks in India are the Nanda Devi (25,645 feet/7,817 meters), Kanchenjunga (28,208 feet/8,598 meters), the third highest peak in the globe located on the boundary between Nepal and Sikkim, Badrinath (23,420 feet/7,138 meters), Kamet (25,447 feet/7,756 meters) and Dunagiri (23,179 feet/7,065 meters). The Andaman and Nicobar and the Lakshadweep Islands are the two major groups of island in the country.

IMPORTANT RIVER VALLEY PROJECTS IN INDIA

Following are the important river valley projects in India

Bhakra Nangal Project	On Sutlej in Punjab. Highest in India.Ht. 226m. Reservoir is called Gobind Sagar Lake.
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Mandi Project	On Beas in HP
Chambal Valley Project	On Chambal in MP & Rajasthan, 3 dams are there:- Gandhi Sagar Dam, Rana Pratap Sagar Dam and Jawahar Sagar Dam
Damodar Valley Project	On Damodar in Bihar, Based on Tennessee Valley Project USA
Hirakud Project	On Mahanadi in Orrisa, World's Longest Dam: 4801m
Rihand Project	On Son in Mirzapur, Reservoir is called Gobind Vallabh Pant reservoir.
Kosi Project	On Kosi in N.Bihar
Mayurkashi Project	On Mayurkashi in West Bengal
Kakrapara Project	On Tapi in Gujrat
Nizamsagar Project	On Manjra in Andhra Pradesh
Nagarjuna Sagar Project	On Krishna in Andhra Pradesh
Tugabhadra Project	On Tugabhadra in Andhra Pradesh & Karnataka
Shivasamudram Project	On Cauvery in Karnataka. It is the older river valley project in India.
Tata Hydel Scheme	On Bhima in Maharashtra
Sharavathi Hydel Project	On Jog Falls in Karnataka
Kundah & Periyar Project	In Tamil Nadu
Farakka Project	On Ganga in WB. Apart from power and irrigation it helps to remove silt for easy navigation.
Ukai Project	On Tapti in Gujarat
Mahi Project	On Mahi in Gujarat
Salal Project	On Chenab in J&K
Mata Tila Multipurpose Project	On Betwa in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh
Thein Project	On Ravi, Punjab.
Pong Dam	On Beas, Punjab
Tehri Dam	On Bhgirathi, Uttarakhand
Sardar Sarovar Project	On Narmada, Gujarat/MP.

INDIAN TOWNS ON RIVERS

Town	River
Allahabad	At the confluence of the Ganga and Yamuna
Patna	Ganga
Varansi	Ganga
Kanpur	Ganga
Haridwar	Ganga
Badrinath	Alaknanda
Agra	Yamuna
Delhi	Yamuna
Mathura	Yamuna
Ferozpur	Satluj
Ludhiana	Satluj
Srinagar	Jhelum
Lucknow	Gomti
Jaunpur	Gomti
Ayodhya	Saryu
Bareilly	Ram ganga
Ahmedabad	Sabarmati
Kota	Chambal
Jabalpur	Narmada
Panji	Mandavi
Ujjain	Kashipra
Surat	Tapti
Jamshedpur	Swarnarekha
Dibrugarh	Brahmaputra
Guwahati	Brahmaputra
Kolkata	Hooghly
Sambalpur	Mahanadi
Cuttack	Mahanadi
Serirangapatnam	Cauvery
Hyderabad	Musi
Nasik	Godavari
Vijayawada	Krishna
Curnool	Tungabhadra
Tiruchirapalli	Cauvery

The 50 highest summits of India with at least 500 meters of topographic prominence

Rank	Mountain	Height (M)	Range	Prominence	State Name
1	Kangchenjunga	8586	Kangchenjunga Himalaya	3922	Sikkim
2	Nanda Devi	7816	Garhwal Himalaya	3139	Uttarakhand
3	Kamet	7756	Garhwal Himalaya	2825	Uttarakhand
4	Saltoro Kangri/K10	7742	Saltoro Karakoram	2160	Jammu and Kashmir
5	Saser Kangri I/K22	7672	Saser Karakoram	2304	Jammu and Kashmir
6	Mamostong Kangri	7516	Rimo Karakoram	1803	Jammu and Kashmir
7	Saser Kangri II E	7513	Saser Karakoram	1450	Jammu and Kashmir
8	Saser Kangri III	7495	Saser Karakoram	850	Jammu and Kashmir
9	Teram Kangri I	7462	Siachen Karakoram	1702	Jammu and Kashmir
10	Jongsong Peak	7462	Kangchenjunga Himalaya	1298	Sikkim
11	K12	7428	Saltoro Karakoram	1978	Jammu and Kashmir
12	Kabru N	7412	Kangchenjunga Himalaya	780	Sikkim
13	Ghent Kangri	7401	Saltoro Karakoram	1493	Jammu and Kashmir
14	Rimo I	7385	Rimo Karakoram	1438	Jammu and Kashmir
15	Teram Kangri III	7382	Siachen Karakoram	520	Jammu and Kashmir
16	Kirat Chuli	7362	Kangchenjunga Himalaya	1168	Sikkim

17	Mana	7272	Garhwal Himalaya	730	Uttarakhand
18	Apsarasas Kangri	7245	Siachen Karakoram	635	Jammu and Kashmir
19	Mukut Parbat	7242	Garhwal Himalaya	840	Uttarakhand
20	Rimo III	7233	Rimo Karakoram	615	Jammu and Kashmir
21	Singhi Kangri	7202	Siachen Karakoram	790	Jammu and Kashmir
22	Hardeol	7161	Garhwal Himalaya	1291	Uttarakhand
23	Chaukhamba I/Badrinath	7138	Garhwal Himalaya	1594	Uttarakhand
24	Nun-Kun	7135	Zaskar Himalaya	2404	Jammu and Kashmir
25	Pauhunri	7128	Sikkim Himalaya	2035	Sikkim
26	Pathibhara/The Pyramid	7123	Kangchenjunga Himalaya	900	Sikkim
27	Trisul I	7120	Garhwal Himalaya	1616	Uttarakhand
28	Satopanth	7075	Garhwal Himalaya	1250	Uttarakhand
29	Tirsuli	7074	Garhwal Himalaya	674	Uttarakhand
30	Chong Kumdang Ri	7071	Rimo Karakoram	851	Jammu and Kashmir
31	Dunagiri	7066	Garhwal Himalaya	1346	Uttarakhand
32	Kangto	7060	Assam Himalaya	2195	Arunachal Pradesh
33	Nyegyis Kansang	7047	Assam Himalaya	1752	Arunachal Pradesh
34	Padmanabh	7030	Rimo Karakoram	870	Jammu and Kashmir
35	Shudu Tsempha	7024	Sikkim Himalaya	524	Sikkim
36	Chamshen	7017	Saser Karakoram	657	Jammu and

	Kangri/Tughmo Zarpo				Kashmir
37	Aq Tash	7016	Rimo Karakoram	1176	Jammu and Kashmir
38	Chong Kumdang Ri II	7004	Rimo Karakoram	624	Jammu and Kashmir
39	Rishi Pahar	6992	Garhwal Himalaya	622	Uttarakhand
40	Thalay Sagar	6984	Garhwal Himalaya	1004	Uttarakhand
41	Mt. Lakshmi	6983	Rimo Karakoram	800	Jammu and Kashmir
42	Kedarnath Peak	6968	Garhwal Himalaya	1400	Uttarakhand
43	Langpo	6965	Sikkim Himalaya	560	Sikkim
44	Saraswati Parvat I/Saraswati Peak	6940	Garhwal Himalaya	900	Uttarakhand
45	Shahi Kangri	6934	Central Tibetan Plateau	1644	Jammu and Kashmir
46	Sri Kailas	6932	Garhwal Himalaya	1092	Uttarakhand
47	Kalanka	6931	Garhwal Himalaya	850	Uttarakhand
48	Chorten Nyima Ri	6927	Sikkim Himalaya	807	Sikkim
49	Saf Minal/Pk 6911	6911	Garhwal Himalaya	531	Uttarakhand
50	Panchchuli II	6904	Garhwal Himalaya	1614	Uttarakhand

NICK NAME OF INDIAN PLACES

Nick Name	Place
Golden City	Amritsar
Manchester of India	Ahmedabad
City of seven islands	Mumbai
Sorrow of Bengal	Damoda river
Sorrow of Bihar	Kosi River
Blue Mountains	Nilgiri

Queen of Arabian Sear	Kochi
Space City	Bengaluru
Garden City of India	Bengaluru
Silicon valley of India	Bengaluru
Electronic City of India	Bengaluru
Pink City	Jaipur
Gateway of India	Mumbai
Twin City	Hyderabad-Sikandarabad
City of festivals	Mudurai
Deccan Queen	Pune
City of Buildings	Kolkata
Dakshin Ganga	Godavari
Old Ganga	Godavari
Egg bowls of Asia	Andhra Pradesh
Soya region	Madhya Pradesh
Manchester of the South	Coiminator
City of Nawabs	Lucknow
Venice of the east	Kochi
Queen of the Mountains	Mussoorie (Uttarkhand)
Sacred river	Ganga
Hollywood of India	Mumbai
City of Castles	Kolkata
State of five rivers	Punjab
City of weavers	Panipat
City of lakes	Srinagar
Steel city of India	Jamshedpur (called Tatanagar)
City of Temples	Varanasi
Manchester of the north	Kanpur
City of Rallies	New Delhi
Heaven of India	Jammu & Kashmir
Boston of India	Ahmedabad
Garden of spices of India	Kerala
Switzerland of India	Kashmir
Abode of the God	Prayag (Allahabad)
Pittsburg of India	Jamshedpur

INDIA'S RIVER SYSTEM COMPRISES

The Himalayan Rivers,
The Deccan Rivers,
The coastal rivers and
The rivers of the inland drainage
basin.

The snow-fed rivers of the Himalayas are perennial and they flood during the winter.

The rain-fed rivers of the Deccan Plateau are non-perennial and have an uncertain flow.

Also most of the western coastal rivers are non-perennial because they have limited catchments area. Many of them are non-perennial.

The fourth type consists of rivers of western Rajasthan and is very few, like the Sambhar, which is lost in the desert sands, and the Loni, that drains into the Rann of Kutch.

The largest river basin of India is the Ganga basin, receiving water from an area bounded by the Himalayas in the north and the Vindhya in the South. The Ganga, the Yamuna, the Ghagra, Gandak and Kosi are the main constituents. The second is the Godavari basin; the third is the Krishna basin, which is the second largest river in peninsular India. The Mahanadi traverses through this basin. The Narmada basin, and that of the Tapi and the Panner are smaller ones, though they are agriculturally important.

In India, rivers are considered holy with lot of reverence. People take bath in these holy rivers during special occasions with a belief that their sins would be wiped off! Of all, the Ganges is the longest with a length of 2500 kms. It rises in the Himalayas and empties into the Bay of Bengal. The Brahmaputra rises in Tibet and ends up in the Bay of Bengal after traveling a distance of around 2900 kms. The Mahanadi, the Godavari, the Krishna and the Kaveri of Peninsular India flow into the Bay of Bengal while the Narmada and the Tapi end up in the Arabian Sea.

The Indian River system is classified as Himalayan, peninsular, coastal, and inland-drainage basin rivers.

The largest river basin of India is the Ganga basin, which receives water from Himalayas in the north and the Vindhya in the South. The Ganga, the Yamuna, the Ghagra, Gandak and Kosi are the main constituents of this basin.

The Brahmaputra has the greatest volume of water of all the rivers in India. It is the source of the Indus and the Satluj and flows through Arunachal Pradesh and Assam

The Mahanadi is an important river in the state of Orissa. This river flows slowly for 900 kms and deposits more silt than any other river in the Indian subcontinent.

The Godavari River System has second longest course within India. The banks of this river have many pilgrimage sites like Nasik, Triyambak and Bhadrachalam.

The Krishna is the third longest river in India with a length of about 1300 kms. It rises in the Western Ghats and flows east into the Bay of Bengal

The source of the Kaveri is located in the Western Ghats. It has many tributaries including Shimsha, Hemavati River, Arkavathy, Kapila, Honnuhole, Lakshmana Tirtha, Kabini, Lokapavani, Bhavani, Noyyal and famous Amaravati. Kaveri is a major source of irrigation in Tamil Nadu.

The Narmada and the Tapi are the only major rivers that flow into the Arabian Sea. The total length of Narmada through the states of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Gujarat amounts to 1312 kms. The Tapi follows a parallel course to the south of the Narmada, flowing through the states of Maharashtra and Gujarat on its way into the Gulf of Khambhat.

The rivers of India provide irrigation, cheap transportation, electricity, and livelihoods for a large number of people. The river system of India also holds significance from a religious point of view.

RIVER SYSTEM OF INDIA

Name	Length (km)	Area	Originates From	Ends in	Places Benifited
Indus	3100	3,21,290 Sq.Km.	In Tibet Kalish Range 5080 mts.	Arabian sea	India and Pakistan
Ganga (Bhagirati)	2480	3,37,00 Sq.Km.	Gangothri	Bay of Bengal	Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand,

					Bihar, West Bengal
Yamuna (Jamuna)	1370	3,59,000 Sq.Km.	Garhwall in Yamunotri	Bay of Bengal	Delhi, Haryana and UP
Brahmaputra	725	2,40,000 Sq.Km.	Lake Manasarovar	Bay of Bengal	North Eastern state
Kaveri (Dakshina Ganga" or Ganges of the south)	805	87,900 Sq.Km.	Hills of Coorg, Karnataka	Bay of Bengal	Karnataka and Tamilnadu
Godavari	1465	3,12,812 Sq.Km.	Nasik Hills	Bay of Bengal	South-easterly part of Andhra Pradesh
Krishna	1400	2,59,000 Sq.Km.	Near Mahabaleshwar in Maharashtra	Bay of Bengal	Maharastra & Andhrapadesh
Narmada	1312	98,796 Sq.Km.	Amarkantak hill in Madhya Pradesh	Arabian sea	Madhya Pradesh and Maharastra
Tapti	724	65,145 Sq.Km.	Bettul	Arabian sea	Madhya Pradesh and Maharastra
Mahanadi	858	1,41,600 Sq.Km.	Amarkantak Plateau	Bay of Bengal	Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Orissa
Vaigai	240	7,000 Sq.Km.	Cardaman Hills	Bay of Bengal	Madurai and Ramanathapuram in Tamil Nadu
Periyar	244	5,398 Sq.Km.	Cardaman Hills	Bay of Bengal	Tamil Nadu and Kerala
Thamiraparani	123	4,400 Sq.Km.	Agasthiyar Hills	Gulf of Mannar	Thirunelveli in Tamil Nadu

RIVERS OF INDIA

Almost all the important Indian cities are situated on the banks of the rivers of India. Rivers of India also have a crucial role in Hindu mythology and are regarded sacred by all the followers of Hindu religion in India. There are nine important rivers of India and they are: The Ganges, Yamuna (a tributary of Ganges), Brahmaputra, Mahanadi, Narmada, Godavari, Tapi, Krishna, and Kaveri. Parts of the Indus River also flow over Indian soil.

Eight important rivers together with their various tributaries comprise the river system of India. Majority of the rivers discharge their waters into the Bay of Bengal; nevertheless, a number of the rivers whose itineraries take them across the western end of India and in the direction of the east of the state of Himachal Pradesh pour into the Arabian Sea. Northern portions of the Aravalli range, portions of Ladakh, and the barren areas of the Thar Desert have inland drainage.

All the important rivers of India have their sources at any of the three principal watersheds:

- Chotanagpur plateau and Vindhya and Satpura ranges in central India
- The Himalaya and the Karakoram mountain ranges
- Western Ghats or Sahyadri in western India

Rivers running into the interiors of India include the following:

- Musi River at Hyderabad, India
- Ghaggar-Hakra River in Haryana, Rajasthan
- Samir River, India/Gujarat

Categories of Rivers of India

The rivers of India can be broadly categorized into the following:

- Peninsular rivers
- Himalayan rivers
- Inland-drainage basin rivers
- Coastal rivers

Rivers like the Ganges (with its tributaries Kameika, Yamuna, Chambal, Gomti), Brahmaputra, Godavari, Mahanadi, Kaveri, Krishna and their principal tributaries flow into the Bay of Bengal. The Indus, Tapti, and Narmada Rivers together with their key tributaries flow into the Arabian Sea. The Himalayan rivers are snow-fed and perennial rivers. The other rivers are either coastal rivers or they flow into the interiors of India.

Go to any place in India and you will be moved to see how much the rivers control the economy and indigenous cultures. Definitely, Indians have revered rivers as a shape of Mother Goddess from the prehistoric era.

Holiness of the Rivers of India

Rivers of India are regarded sacred. Indian rivers have plenty of spiritual importance. Respected, worshipped, and cared for, these rivers form an integral part of every Indian life. Nothing progresses in their absence. They are as special as the Indian temples for a devotee. You can visit some of these rivers to understand what they imply to a common Indian man.

Ganga or the Ganges

The Ganga and its tributaries such as Son, Yamuna, Budhi Khandak, Gandak, and Sabazpati have been omitted from the list, which originally creates the largest cultivable plains of northern and eastern India, named as the Gangetic plains. The principal river, the sacred Ganga is formed by the union of Andha and Alaknanda. Ganga originates from Gangotri glaciers (Gaumukh - 13,858 ft) in the Himalayan mountain range and gushes from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, and then comes into West Bengal and Bangladesh. It finally finishes in the Bay of Bengal in Bangladesh, where the name of the river is Padma.

The Brahmaputra River System

The Brahmaputra starts off from the Mansarovar lake, which is also the place from where the Sutlej and the Indus have originated. It is somewhat longer than the Indus, however the greater portion of its itinerary is situated outside India. It runs to the east in China, adjacent to the Himalayas, known as Tsang-Po. When it arrives at Namcha Barwa (2900 m), it takes an about turn close to it and moves into India in Arunachal Pradesh and is named as Dihang.

The Indus River System

The source of Indus River is located in the northern sides of the Kailash mountain range close to Lake Mansarovar in Tibet. In spite of the fact that the maximum portion of the river's itinerary flows across bordering Pakistan, a part of the river flows across Indian soil, similar to portions of the itineraries of its five important tributaries mentioned below. The tributaries of Indus River played a key role behind the origination of the name " Punjab". The word "Punjab" has originated from the Persian words Punj ("five") and aab ("water"), therefore the blend of the words (Punjab) signifies "land of five waters" or "five waters". The tributaries of Indus River are as follows:

- Beas
- Chenab
- Jhelum
- Ravi
- Sutlej (Satluj)

The Narmada River System

The Narmada' or Nerbudda is a river situated in central India. It creates the conventional frontier between South India and North India. The overall length of the river is 1,289 km (801 miles). The Narmada, the Mahi, and the Tapti are the important rivers of peninsular India that flow from east to west. The source of Narmada is Amarkantak.

The Taapi River System

The Taapi is a river situated in central India. It is one of the important rivers of the Indian peninsula and is approximately 724 km long. It climbs in the eastern Satpura range of Southern Madhya Pradesh, prior to pouring into the Gulf of Cambay of the Arabian Sea in Gujarat.

The Godavari River System

Godavari is a river, which has the second biggest itinerary in India and is frequently named as the Dakshin (South) Ganga or the Vriddh (Old) Ganga. The length of the river is approximately 1,450 km (900 mi). It climbs at Trimbakeshwar, close to Mumbai (erstwhile

Bombay) and Nasik in Maharashtra about 380 km away from the Arabian Sea, and pours into the Bay of Bengal. At Rajahmundry, 80 km from the seashore, the river is divided into two watercourses (Vasista which runs to Narsapur and Gautami which runs to other side pasarlapudi), therefore creating an extremely productive delta.

The Krishna River System

The Krishna is one of the biggest Rivers in India (approximately 1,300 km long). It starts off from Mahabaleswar, Maharashtra and joins the sea in the Bay of Bengal at Hamasaladevi, Andhra Pradesh. The river runs across the states of Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Andhra Pradesh.

The Kaveri River System

The Kaveri (also known as Kavery or Cauvery) is one of the major rivers in India and is regarded as holy by the Hindus. It is a sacred river for the South Indians. The origin of the Kaveri River is known as Dakshin Kashi. There are two temples: Caveri temple at Talakaveri and God Shiva Temple known as Bhagandeshwar at Bhagamandala. The sources of the river are located in the Western Ghats mountain range of Karnataka, and from Karnataka across Tamil Nadu. The Kaveri pours into the Bay of Bengal.

The Mahanadi River System.

The delta of Mahanadi River in India is a significant drainage area, which drains big areas of the Indian subcontinent into the Bay of Bengal. The alluvial basin is extensive and comparatively plane with a winding river waterway that alters its itinerary.

The Mahanadi River runs steadily for 560 miles (900 km) and features a projected catchment basin of 51,000 sq miles (132,100 square km). The river sediments higher amount of silt as compared to any other Indian river.

Rivers flowing into Bay of Bengal

Given below is a list of rivers flowing into the Bay of Bengal.

- (1) Subarnarekha
 - (a) Kharkai

- (2) Karnaphuli River from Mizoram and Bangladesh
- (3) Damodar
- (4) Meghna River from India and Bangladesh

- (a) Titas River in Tripura
 - (i) Haora River in Agartala.

Brahmaputra River Basin

(1) Brahmaputra River

- Burhidihing River, also named Noa Dihing in the beginning of its itinerary through Namdapha National Park
- Lohit River
- Disang
- Kameng River
- Bhogdoi
- Dikhou
- Dhansiri River
- Kakodonga
- Kapili
- Subanshiri
- Manas River
- Pagladiya
- Yamuna
- Sankosh
- Teesta River
 - (a) Lachen River
 - (b) Rangeet River
 - (c) Lachung River
- Dharla River in Bangladesh
 - (a) Jaldhaka in Sikkim

Ganges River Basin

(1) Ganges River

- Hooghly River (distributary)
 - (a) River Churni
 - (b) Jalangi River
 - (c) Ichamati River
 - (d) Damodar River
 - (i) Barakar River
 - (e) Ajay River
 - (f) Rupnarayan River
 - (g) Tirap
 - (h) Siang
 - (i) Dwarakeswar River
 - (j) Mayurakshi River
 - (k) Mundeswari River
- Padma River (distributary)
- Meghna River (distributary)
- Kosi River
- Budhi Gandak
- Gandak at Patna
- Falgu River
- Son River
 - (a) Koel River
 - (b) Rihand River
 - (c) Gopad River
 - (i) Goini River
 - (ii) Neur River
 - (d) Banas River
- Yamuna River
 - (a) Ban Ganga River
 - (b) Betwa River
 - (i) Halali River
 - (ii) Dhasan River
 - (iii) Kaliasote River
 - (c) Sindh River
 - (i) Pahuj River in Bhind District Madhya Pradesh

- (ii) Kwari River
- (d) Chambal River
 - (i) Banas River
 - Berach River
 - Ahar River
 - (ii) Parbati River (Madhya Pradesh)
 - (iii) Kali Sindh River
 - (iv) Shipra River in Ujjain
- (e) Gambhir River
 - (i) Parbati River (Rajasthan)
- Ghaghara River (Gogra) or Karnali River in Nepal
- Gomti River
- Ramganga River
 - (a) Kho River
 - (i) Surkho River
 - (ii) Malini River
- Mahakali River
- Mahananda River
- Alaknanda River
- Bhagirathi River
- Beson River
- Gangi River
- Bhainsai River
- Mangai River
- Karmanasha
- Tamsa River

West Bengal Coastal Rivers

- (a)Kangsabati River
 - (i)Bhagirathi
 - (ii)Hughli
- (b)Subarnarekha River
 - (i)Kharkai River

Mahanadi River Basin

- Brahmani River
- Mahanadi River

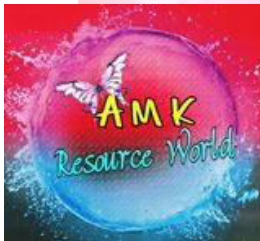
- South Koel River near Rourkela
- Baitarani River
- Devi River
- Sankh River
- Daya River
- Kusabhadra River
- Kadua River
- Bhargavi River

Godavari River Basin

Godavari River in the states Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh,

- (a)Indravati River in Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra and also in Chhattisgarh state.
 - (i) Bandiya River in Gadchiroli
- (b)Kolab River in Orissa State

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