

## Chapter-2

### Physical Features of India

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#### 1 marks Questions

**1. Which continents of today were parts of Gondwana Land?**

**Ans.** India, Australia, South America and South America.

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**2. Which plateau lies between the Aravali and the Vindhya range?**

**Ans.** Malwa Plateau.

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**3. Name the island group of India having coral origin?**

**Ans.** Lakshadweep.

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**4. Name highest peak of western Ghats.**

**Ans.** Anai Mudi.

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**5. What is peninsula?**

**Ans.** Peninsula is landmass bounded by sea on three sides.

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**6. Name the mountain range that is situated on the eastern part of India forming its boundary with Myanmar.**

**Ans.** Purvanchal

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**7. Name the highest peak in the Eastern Ghats.**

**Ans.** Mahendragiri.



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**8. Name the strip situated on the South of Goa.**

**Ans.** Kannad.

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**9. Which is the oldest landmass of India?**

**Ans.** Gondwana Land.

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**10. Which is the northern most range of Himalayas?**

**Ans.** Himadri.

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**11. In which range of Himalayas does Dhauladhar and Pir Panjal Ranges lie?**

**Ans.** Himadri.

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**12. Which range is composed of unconsolidated sediments brought down by the rivers?**

**Ans.** Shiwaliks.

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**13. What are the newer younger deposits of flood plains called?**

**Ans.** Khadar.

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**14. Name the elongated chain of island in the Bay of Bengal.**

**Ans.** Andaman and Nicobar.

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**15. Name the Highest peak in Eastern Ghats.**

**Ans.** Mahendragiri.

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**16. Name the only river in desert region.**

**Ans.** Luni.

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**17. Which are two main causes of rock displacement?**

**Ans.** Folding and faulting

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**18. What is folding?**

**Ans.** Folding is a process that produces folds or bends in rocks due to compression forces acting on layers of rock in the earth's crust.

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**19. What is faulting?**

**Ans.** When the rocks are subjected to tensional forces they are stretched in opposite direction. Due to this stretching the rocks get fractured. Such fracturing of rocks is called faulting.

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**20. What is convergent boundary?**

**Ans.** It is a boundary which is formed due to the movement of plates towards each other.



### 3 marks Questions

#### 1. What do you know about Punjab Himalayas and Kumaon Himalayas?

**Ans.** The part of Himalayas lying between Indus and Sutlej has been traditionally known as Punjab Himalayas but it is also known as Kashmir Himalayas and Himachal Himalayas from west to east.

The part of Himalayas lying between Sutlej River and Kali River is known as Kumaon River.

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#### 2. What do you know about Nepal Himalayas and Assam Himalayas?

**Ans.** The kali and Tista Rivers demarcated the Nepal Himalayas.

The part between lying between Tista and Dihang rivers is called Assam Himalayas.

These categories also have regional names.

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#### 3. Describe Purvanchal.

**Ans.** The eastern most boundaries of the Himalayas is demarcated by the Brahmaputra. Beyond the Dihang gorge, the Himalayas bend sharply to the south and spread along the eastern boundary of India.

They are called as the Purvanchal or the eastern hills and mountains.

These hills have been composed of string sandstones which are sedimentary rocks.

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#### 4. Write a short note on Punjab plains.

**Ans.** The western part of the Northern Plains is known as the Punjab plains.

The largest part which formed by the Indus and its tributaries lies in Pakistan.

The Indus and its tributaries-the Jehlaum, The Chenab, The Ravi, the Beas and the Sutlej originate in the Himalayas.



This section of the plains is dominated by the Doabs.

**5. Write a short note on Ganga plains.**

**Ans.** The plains of Ganga spread between Ghaggar and Teesta rivers.

It extends over the states of North India.

Including Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar partially Jharkhand and West Bengal to its east.

**6. Two features A and B are marked in the given political map of India. Identify these features with the help of the following information and write their correct names on the lines marked on the map.**

**i) The Second Highest Mountain peak in the World**

**ii) The Mountain Range**

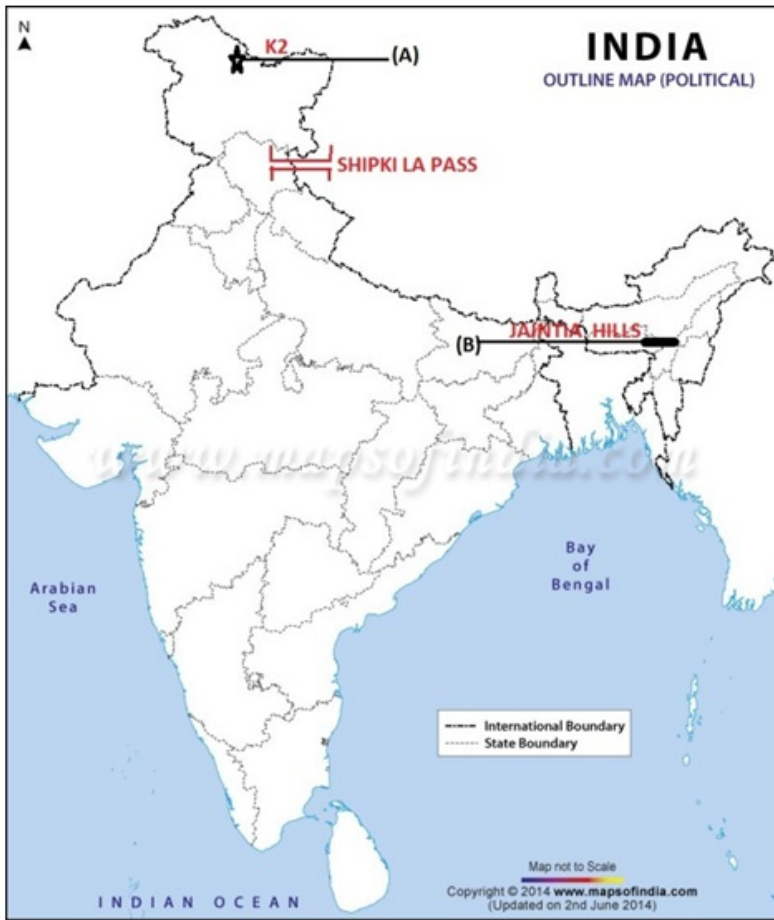
**On the same political map locate and label the following**

**iii) Shipki La Pass**



**Ans.**





### 7. Explain the three types of plate movements.

**Ans.** Some plate come towards each other and formed convergent boundary. Some plates move away from each other and form divergent boundary. They may either collide or crumble. Plates may move horizontally past each other and join transform boundary.

### 8. The land of India displays great physical variation. Explain.

**Ans.** There is a great physical variation in the landmass of India. Geologically the peninsular plateau constitutes one of the ancient lands mass on the earth surface. It was considered to be one of the most stable land blocks. The northern plains and the Himalayas are the most recent land forms. In the opinion Geologists Himalayan Mountains form an unstable zone. The northern plains are formed of the alluvial deposits. The peninsular plateau is formed by igneous and metamorphic rocks.



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**9. Write a short note on Himadri.**

**Ans.** Northern most range is called as the 'Great or Inner Himalayas' or 'Himadri'.

It is the most continuous range which consists of loftiest peaks with an average height of 6000 meter.

All the prominent Himalayan peaks are contained in this range.

The folds of great Himalayas are asymmetrical in nature.

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**10. Write a short note on Himachal.**

**Ans.** The zone lying to the south of the Himadri forms the most rugged mountains system which is known as Himachal or Lesser Himalayas.

The Ranges are mainly composed of highly compressed and altered rocks.

The altitude varies between 3700 and 4500 meter.

The most important and longest range is the Pir Panjal range.

The Dhauladhar and the Mahabharat ranges are also prominent ranges.

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**11. Write a short note on Shiwaliks.**

**Ans.** This is the outer most range of Himalayas.

They extend over a width of 10-15 km.

They have an altitude which varies between 900 and 1100 meters.

These ranges are composed of unconsolidated sediments brought down by rivers from the Himalayan ranges located farther north.

Thick gravel and alluvium cover these valleys.

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**12. Two features A and B are marked in the given political map of India. Identify these features with the help of the following information and write their correct names on the lines marked on the map.**

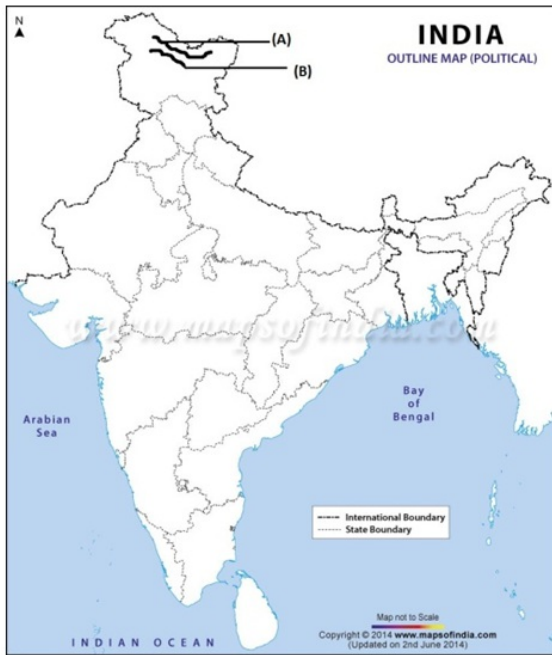
**i) A Mountain Range**

**ii) A Mountain Range**

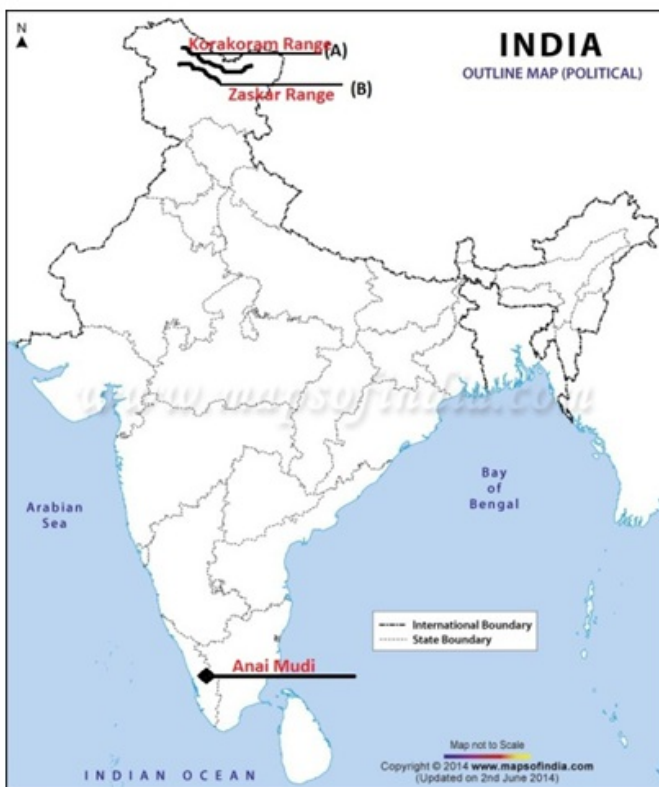
**On the same political map locate and label the following**

**iii) Anai Mudi**





Ans.



### 13. What is khaddar?

**Ans.** They are renewed almost every year which makes this region fertile and ideal for intensive agriculture. It is low land area composed of new alluvium. This area is flooded almost every year. Due to floods new alluvium is deposits.



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**14. What are the features of Bhabar and Terai regions?**

**Ans.** Bhabar- The rivers after descending from the mountains deposit pebbles in a narrow belt of about 8 to 16 kms width lying parallel to the slopes of the Shiwaliks.

Terai- South of this belt the streams and rivers reemerged and wet, swampy and marshy region. This is a thickly forested region full of wildlife.

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**15. What is Bhangar?**

**Ans.** These are highlands composed of old alluvium. These areas are found above the level of flood plains Contains calcareous deposits-Kankar and not suited for agriculture.

This is less fertile area.

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**16. Why is peninsular plateau the oldest land mass?**

**Ans.** The Peninsular Plateau is a tableland. It is composed of the old crystalline, igneous and metamorphic rocks. It is situated in the southern side of India.

The peninsular part of India was once a part of Gondwanaland.

The breaking and drifting of Gondwanaland formed the peninsular plateau.

It is the part of the oldest landmass.

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**17. Write a note on Aravali Hills.**

**Ans.** The Aravali Hills lies on the Western and Northwestern margins of the peninsular plateau. These are found as broken hills as they are very much eroded hills.

They cover the area from Gujarat to Delhi in southwest-northwest directions.

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**18. Two features A and B are marked in the given political map of India. Identify these features with the help of the following information and write their correct names on the lines marked on the map.**

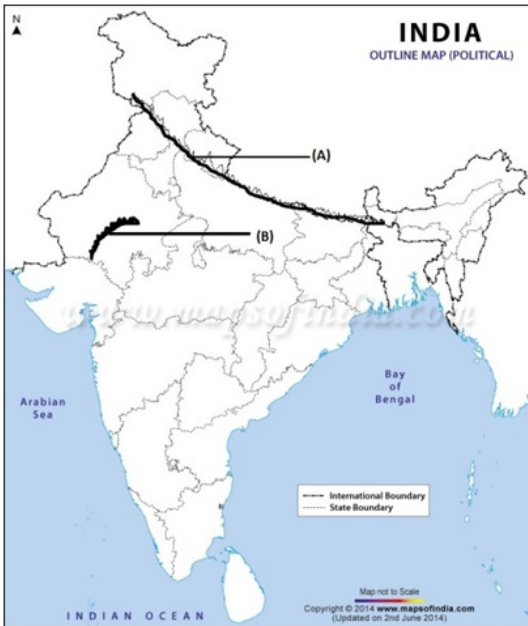
**A. The outer most range of Himalaya**

**B. Broken hills in Rajasthan**

**On the same political map locate and label the following**

**C. Satpura Range**





Ans.



## 19. Briefly describe the Indian Deserts.

**Ans.** The Indian Desert lies towards to the western margins of the Aravali Hills.

It is covered with sand dunes and sandy plains. There is very low rainfall below 150 mm per year in this region. It has dry climate having low vegetation cover.

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**20. What do you know about Western coastal plains?**

**Ans.** The western coast is narrow plains extending between the Western Ghats and Arabian Sea. It consist of three sections- Konkan, Kannad plain and Malabar Coast.

These Plaines are drained by many short and swift streams which are unable to form deltas.

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**21. What do you know about Eastern coastal plains?**

**Ans.** The plains are wide and level along the Bay of Bengal. It is known as the Northern Circar in the Northern part while the Southern part is known as the Coramandal Coast.

The Mahanadi, the Godavari the Krishna and the Kaveri have formed the extensive delta on this coast. Lake Chilka is an important feature along the eastern coast.

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**22. What do you mean by the ‘Theory of Plate Tectonics’?**

**Ans.** Geographers have explained the formation of physical features with the help of certain evidence based on theories. ‘Theory of Plate Tectonic’ is one of them.

According to this theory, the crust of the earth has been formed out of seven major and some minor plates. Due to the movement of the plates resulted in building up of stresses within the plates, leading to folding, faulting and volcanic activities.

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**23. How were the Northern Plains formed?**

**Ans.** The Himalayan uplift out of the Tethys Sea and subsidence of the northern flank of the peninsular plateau resulted in the formation of a large basin.

In due course of time, this depression gradually got filled with deposition of sediments by the river flowing from the mountains in the north and peninsular plateau in the south.

A flat land of extensive alluvial deposits led to the formation of the northern plans of India.

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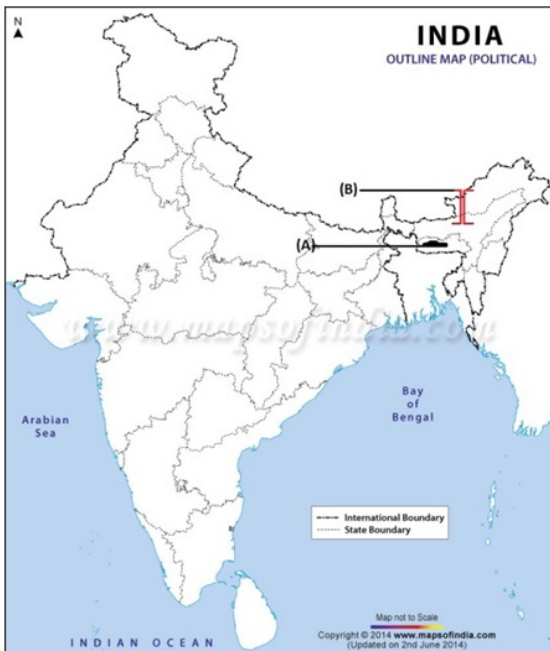
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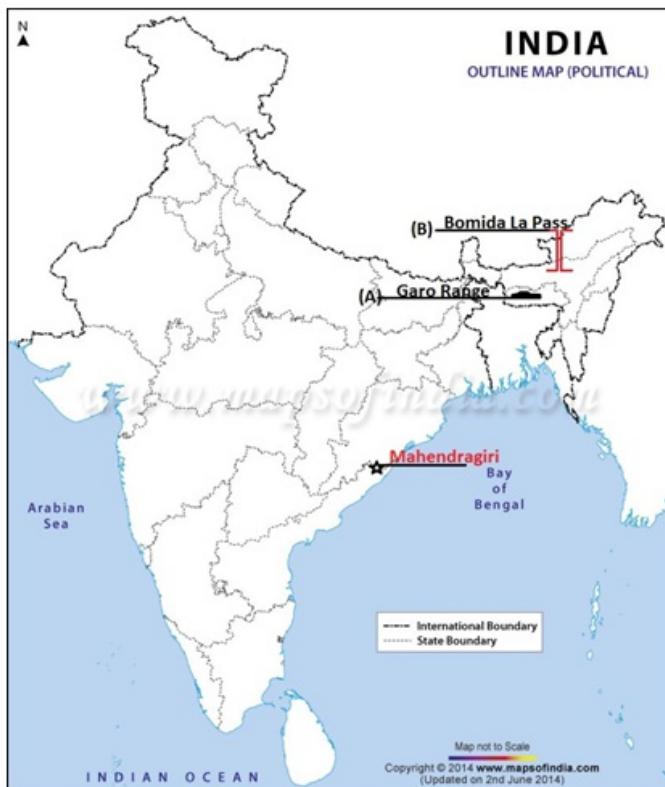
**On the same political map locate and label the following**



### iii) Mahendragiri



Ans.



25. Name the major physiographic divisions of India.

Ans. The Himalayan Mountains

The Northern Plains, The Peninsular Plateau, The Indian Desert, The Coastal plains, The



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## Islands Group

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### 26. How are Riverine Island formed?

**Ans.** The rivers coming from the northern mountains carry alluvium with them and do the depositional work. In the lower course, due to gentle slope the velocity of the river decreases which results in the formation of Riverine Islands.

Majuli, in the Brahmaputra River is the largest inhabited riverine island in the world.

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### 27. Write a short note on Lakshadweep Islands Groups.

**Ans.** This island group is situated in Arabian Sea. The group of island is composed of small coral islands. Earlier they were known as Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindive.

In 1973 these were names Lakshadweep. It covers small area of 32 sq km.

An administrative headquarters of Lakshadweep is Kavaratti Island. There is great diversity of flora and fauna in this island group.

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### 28. Write a short note on Andaman and Nicobar island.

**Ans.** This island group is situated in Arabian Sea. The group of island is composed of small coral islands. Earlier they were known as Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindive.

In 1973 these were names Lakshadweep. It covers small area of 32 sq km.

An administrative headquarters of Lakshadweep is Kavaratti Island. There is great diversity of flora and fauna in this island group.

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### 29. The land of India displays great physical variation. Explain.

**Ans.** There is a great physical variation in the landmass of India. Geologically the peninsular plateau constitutes one of the ancient lands mass on the earth surface. It was considered to be one of the most stable land blocks. The northern plains and the Himalayas are the most recent land forms. In the opinion Geologists Himalayan Mountains form an unstable zone. The northern plains are formed of the alluvial deposits.

The peninsular plateau is formed by igneous and metamorphic rocks

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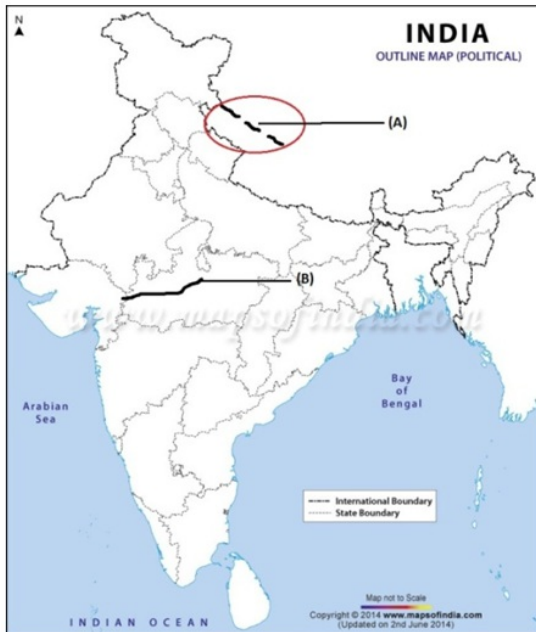


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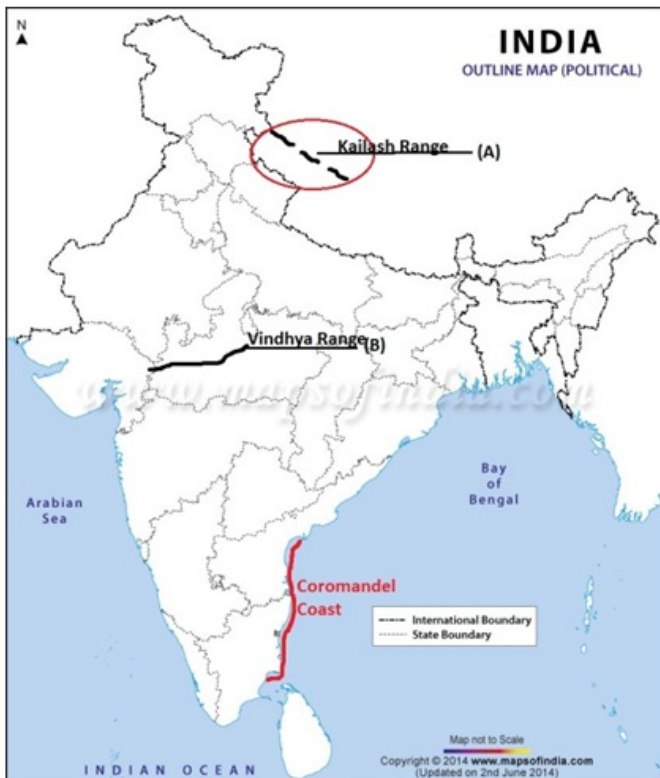
i) Mountain Range ii) Mountain Range

On the same political map locate and label the following

iii) Coromandel Coast



Ans.



## 5 marks Questions

### 1. What are the features of Himalayan Mountains?

**Ans.** The Himalayas, Geologically young and structurally fold mountains stretch over the northern borders of India.

These mountain ranges run in a west east direction the Indus to Brahmaputra.

The Himalayas represent the loftiest and one of the most rugged mountains barriers of the world.

They form an arc which covers a distance of about 2400 km.

There width varies from 400 km in Kashmir to 150 km in Arunachal Pradesh.

The Himalayas consist of three parallel ranges in its longitudinal extent. Those are Himadri, Himachal and Shiwaliks.

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### 2. Classify Himalayas on the basis of regions from east to west.

**Ans.** The part of Himalayas lying between Indus and Sutlej has been traditionally known as Punjab Himalayas. But it is also known regionally as Kashmir and Himachal Himalaya from west to east.

The part of Himalayas lying between Sutlej and Kali River is known as Kumaon Himalayas.

The Kali and the Tista rivers demarcated the Nepal Himalayas.

The part between Tista and Dihang rivers is called Assam Himalayas.

The eastern most boundaries of the Himalayas are demarcated by Brahmaputra.

Beyond Dihang gorge the Himalayas bend sharply to the south and spread along eastern boundary of India. They are called Purvanchal.

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### 3. Write down the features of Northern plains.

**Ans.** The three major river systems namely the Indus, the Ganga and the Brahmaputra along



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with their tributaries form the northern plains.

These plains are formed of alluvial soil.

The alluvial deposition lying at the foothills of the Himalaya over millions of year formed these fertile plains.

It covers an area of 7 lakhs sq. km.

The length of plain is about 2400 km and its width is about 240 to 320 km.

It becomes a very productive part of our country in agriculture as it has rich soil covered with adequate water supply and favorite climate.

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#### **4. Write down the features of the Central Highlands.**

**Ans.** The central highlands of the plateau lie to the north of the Narmada River covering a major area of the Malwa plateau.

The Aravalis range is bounded by the Central Highlands on the northwest and Vindhyan range on the south.

The further westward extension includes the sandy and rocky desert of Rajasthan.

The flow of the rivers draining this region namely the Chambal, the Sind, the Betwa and Ken is the southwest to northeast, thus indicating the slop.

The central Highlands are narrower in the east but wider in the west.

The eastward extension of this plateau is locally known as the Budelkhand and Baghelkhand.

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#### **5. What are the features of the Deccan Plateau?**

**Ans.** The Deccan Plateau is a triangular landmass lying to the south of the Narmada river.

The Mahadev, the Kaimur hills and Maikal range form its eastern extensions while Satpura range flanks its broad base in the north.

The Deccan plateau is higher in the west and slopes gently eastward.

An extension of the plateau can be seen in the northwest locally known as the Meghalaya and Karbi Anglong Plateau.

It is separated by fault from the Chota Nagpur Plateau.

Three prominent hill ranges are Garo, Khasi and the Jaintia Hills extending from west to east.

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#### **6. Write a short note on the Indian Desert.**





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**Ans.** The Indian desert lies towards the western margins of the Aravali Hills.  
It is covered with sand dunes and sandy plains.  
There is a very low rainfall below 150 m.m. per year in this region.  
It has dry climate having low vegetation cover.  
Streams appear during rainy season. After sometime streams these disappear into the sand as they do not have enough water to reach the sea.  
Luni is the single large river in this region.

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### 7. Describe Corals?

**Ans.** Coral Polyps are short lived microscopic organisms, which live in colonies.  
They flourish in shallow, mud free and warm waters.  
They secrete hard rock like substance.  
The coral secretion and their skeletons from coral deposits in the form of reefs.  
They are mainly of three kinds- barrier reefs, fringing reef and atolls.  
The Great Barrier Reef of Australia is good example of the first kind of coral reefs.  
Atolls are circular or horse shoe shaped coral reefs.

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### 8. Write about the relief of the Peninsular Plateau.

**Ans.** Peninsular Plateau is a table land composed of the old crystalline igneous and metamorphic rocks.  
The plateau has broad and shallow valley and rounded hills.  
The plateau consists of two broad divisions, namely the Central Highlands and Deccan Plateau.  
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Central Highlands are wider in the west, but narrow in the east.  
The Deccan plateau is a triangular land mass that lies to the south of the Narmada River. The plateau is higher in the west and slopes gently eastward.

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### 9. Write any five features of Eastern Ghats.



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**Ans.** They are situated at the east to Deccan plateau.

They are parallel to eastern coast i.e. Coromandal , Northern Circar.

Northern Circar (between Mahanadi and Krishna rivers) and Coramandal (between Krishna and Kavari River) are the coastal plains.

Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, Kaveri etc rivers are drawn this land form.

Mahendragiri with an altitude 1501 meters is the highest peak here.

They consist of eastern coastal plains.

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**10. Write any five features of Western Ghats.**

**Ans.** They are on reverse side of Eastern Ghats i.e. west to Deccan Plateau.

They are parallel to western coast i.e. Konkan, Kannad, Malabar etc.

Konkan (Mumbai to Goa), Kannad (Goa to Kerala) and Malabar (Kerala to kanyakumari) are the coastal plains here.

Narmada, Tapi, Sabarmati and Mahi etc rivers are drawn this land.

Anai Mudi with an altitude of 2695 meters is the highest peak here.

They constitute western coastal plains.

