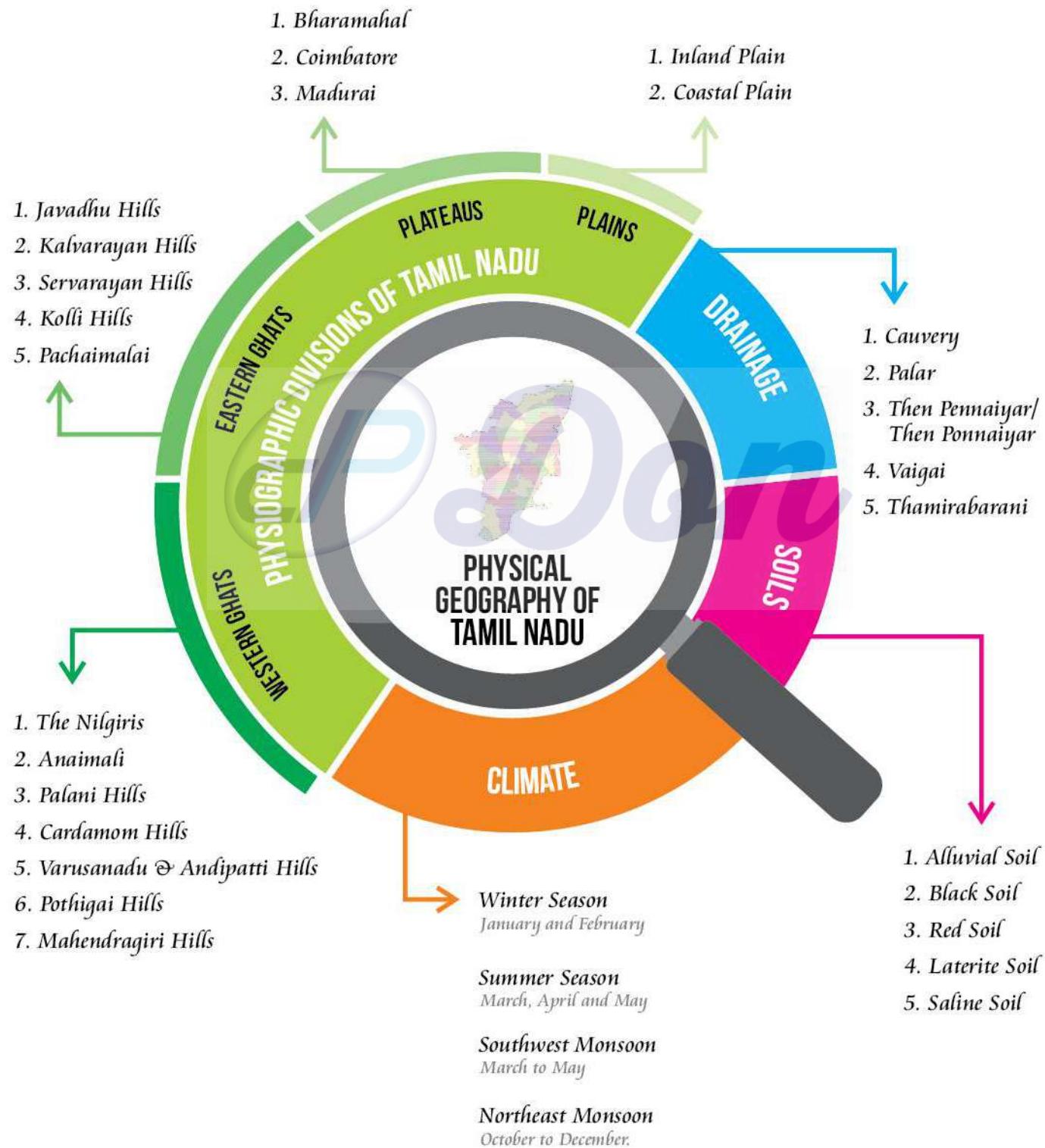


**MIND MAP**





## POINTS TO REMEMBER

- Tamil nadu is located on the perinsular plateau, known as Deccan plateau.
- The passes Palghat, Shencottah, Aralvaimozhi and Achankovil are present in Western Ghats.
- Nilgiri hills consists of 24 peaks.
- Anaimalai is located to the south of Palghat gap.
- During the British period, our country was divided into three presidencies, namely Madras, Bombay and Calcutta.
- The Madras state was renamed as Tamil nadu by C.N.Annadurai, former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, on January 14, 1969.
- Its eastern and western extremities are defined by the Point Calimere and the hills of Anaimalai respectively.
- Srivilliputhur Grizzled Squirrel Wild life Sanctuary is located in Virudhunagar district.
- ISRO propulsion complex, a test facility for Indian Space Research organisation launch vehicles and satellite propulsion systems is situated on Mahendragiri hills.
- Many parts of Javadhu hill range are covered with bluish gray granites.
- The name 'Kalvarayan' comes from the word 'Karalar', the ancient name of the present tribes.
- The Palar river rises beyond Talagavara village in the Kolar district of Karnataka.
- The origin of the Thamirabarani river is associated with Sage Agasthiyar.
- Soil is a non-renewable resource.

## PLACES AND THEIR IMPORTANCE

## 1) Major hills in Tamilnadu:

Districts	Hills
Coimbatore	Maruthamalai, Velliangiri and Anaimalai
Dharmapuri	Theertha malai, Chitteri and Vathalmalai
Dindugal	Pazhamalai and Kodaikanal
Erode	Chenni hills and Sivan hills
Vellore	Javadhu, Yelagiri and Rathinamalai hills
Namakkal	Kolli hills
Salem	Servarayan, Kanjamalai and Chalk hills
Villupuram	Kalvarayan and Gingee hills
Perambalur	Pachaimalai
Kanniyakumari	Marunthuvazhmalai
Tirunelveli	Mahendragiri and Agasthiyarmalai
Nilgiri	Nilgiri hills



**2) Major water falls in Tamil Nadu**

Districts	Water falls
Dharmapuri	Hogenakkal
Tirunelveli	Kalyanatheertham, Courtallam
Theni	Kumbakkarai and Suruli
Namakkal	Agayagangai
The Nilgiri	Catherine and Pykara
Salem	Kiliyur
Virudhunagar	Ayyanar
Coimbatore	Vaideki, Sengupathi, Siruvani and Kovaikutralam
Tiruppur	Tirumurthy
Madurai	Kutladampatti
Kanniyakumari	Tirparappu, Kaalikesam, Ulakkai and Vattaparai

**3) Wild life Sanctuaries Tamilnadu**

S.No	Wildlife Sanctuaries in Tamil Nadu	District	Year of Establishment
1	Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary	The Nilgiris	1940
2	Mundanthurai Wildlife Sanctuary	Tirunelveli	1962
3	Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary	Nagapattinam	1967
4	Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary	Coimbatore	1976
5	Kalakad Wildlife Sanctuary	Tirunelveli	1976
6	Vallanadu Black Buck Sanctuary	Thoothukudi	1987
7	Grizzled Giant Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuary	Virudhunagar	1988
8	Kanniyakumari Wildlife Sanctuary	Kanyakumari	2007
9	Sathyamangalam Wildlife Sanctuary	Erode	2008
10	Megamalai Wildlife Sanctuary	Theni and Madurai	2009
11	Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary - Block A and Block B	Thanjavur and Tiruvarur Nagapattinam	2013
12	Kodaikanal Wildlife Sanctuary	Dindigul and Theni	2013
13	Gangaikondan Spotted Deer Sanctuary	Tirunelveli	2013
14	Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary	Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri	2014
15	Nellai Wildlife Sanctuary	Tirunelveli	2015



## 4) Bird life Sanctuaries Tamilnadu

S.No	Bird Sanctuaries in Tamil Nadu	District	Year of Establishment
1	Vettangudi Birds Sanctuary	Sivaganga	1977
2	Pulicat Lake Birds Sanctuary	Tiruvallur	1980
3	Karikili Birds Sanctuary	Kancheepuram	1989
4	Kanjirankulam Birds Sanctuary	Ramanathapuram	1989
5	Chitrangudi Birds Sanctuary	Ramanathapuram	1989
6	Koonthankulam-Kadankulam Birds Sanctuary	Tirunelveli	1994
7	Vellode Birds Sanctuary	Erode	1997
8	Vedanthangal Birds Sanctuary	Kancheepuram	1998
9	Udayamarthandapuram Birds Sanctuary	Tiruvarur	1998
10	Melaselvanur-Keelselvanur Birds Sanctuary	Ramanathapuram	1998
11	Vaduvoor Birds Sanctuary	Tiruvarur	1999
12	Karaivetti Birds Sanctuary	Ariyalur	2000
13	Theerthangal Bird Sanctury	Ramanathapuram	2010
14	Sakkarakottai Tank Birds Sanctuary	Ramanathapuram	2012
15	Oussudu Lake Birds Sanctuary	Villupuram	2015

## I. Choose the correct answer:



## TEXTUAL QUESTIONS

1. The latitudinal extent of Tamil Nadu is

- a) 8°4' N to 13°35' N  
b) 8°5' S to 13°35' S  
c) 8°0' N to 13°5' N  
d) 8°0' S to 13°5' S

2. The longitudinal extent of TamilNadu is

- a) 76°18'E to 80°20' E  
b) 76°18' W to 80°20'W  
c) 86°18' E to 10°20' E  
d) 86°18' W to 10°20' W

3. The highest peak in Tamil Nadu is

- a) Anaimudi      b) Doddabetta  
c) Mahendragiri      d) Servarayan

4. Which of the following passes is not located in the Western Ghats of Tamil Nadu?

- a) Palghat      b) Shencottah  
c) Bhorhat      d) Achankoil



## PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY OF TAMIL NADU

Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Which one of the following rivers flow into the Arabian Sea?  
a) Periyar      b) Cauvery      c) Chittar      d) Bhavani
6. The district with largest mangrove forest cover in TamilNadu is  
a) Ramanathapuram      b) Nagapattinam  
c) Cuddalore      d) Theni
7. The forest cover of Tamil Nadu as per 2017 Indian Forest report is  
a) 20.21%      b) 20.31%      c) 21. 20%      d) 21.30%
8. Retreating monsoon wind picks up moisture from  
a) Arabian sea      b) Bay of Bengal      c) Indian Ocean      d) Timor sea
9. Which of the following districts is affected by sand dunes to a large extent?  
a) Theni      b) Madurai      c) Thanjavur      d) Ramanathapuram
10. The district which has the largest forest cover in Tamil Nadu is  
a) Dharmapuri      b) Vellore      c) Dindigul      d) Erode



## ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

11. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ separate TamiNadu from the Island of Srilanka.  
a) Gulf of Mannar and Palk strait  
c) Palk Strait and Nagapattinam  
b) Indian ocean and Gulf of Mannar  
d) None of the above
12. Tamilnadu is the \_\_\_\_\_ largest state in India.  
a) 10<sup>th</sup>      b) 11<sup>th</sup>      c) 8<sup>th</sup>      d) 12<sup>th</sup>
13. Palani hills are the \_\_\_\_\_ extension of the Western Ghats.  
a) Southward      b) Northward      c) Eastward      d) Westward.
14. \_\_\_\_\_ is the highest peak in the Palani hills.  
a) Doddabetta      b) Mahendragiri      c) Vandarave      d) Vembadi
15. Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger reserve is located in \_\_\_\_\_ region.  
a) Varusanadu      b) Andipatti      c) Javadhu      d) Pothigai hills.
16. Jackfruit is a popular seasonal agricultural product of \_\_\_\_\_ hills.  
a) Pachaimalai      b) Kolli hills      c) Yela Malai      d) Nilgiri.
17. The state having the longest coast line in India  
a) Tamil Nadu      b) Gujarat      c) Andhra Pradesh      d) Odisha
18. \_\_\_\_\_ soil is rich in Iron-oxide.  
a) Black soil      b) Red soil      c) Alluvial      d) Laterite
19. It divides India roughly into two equal parts  
a) Equator      b) Tropic of Cancer      c) Tropic of Capricorn      d) North pole
20. The most common trigger of landslide is  
a) Fire      b) Water      c) Storm      d) High temperature



## ANSWER

- |                          |  |                         |
|--------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 1. a) 8°4' N to 13°35'N  | 8. b) Bay of Bengal                      | 14. c) Vandarave        |
| 2. a) 76°18'E to 80°20'E | 9. a) Theni                              | 15. d) Pothigai hills   |
| 3. b) Doddabetta         | 10. a) Dharmapuri                        | 16. a) Pachaimalai      |
| 4. c) Bhorghat           | 11. a) Gulf of Mannar and<br>Palk strait | 17. b) Gujarat          |
| 5. a) Periyar            | 12. b) 11 <sup>th</sup>                  | 18. b) Red soil         |
| 6. c) Cuddalore          | 13. c) eastward                          | 19. b) Tropic of Cancer |
| 7. a) 20.21%             |  | 20. b) Water            |

## II. Fill in the blanks:



## TEXTUAL QUESTIONS

- The plateau which lies between the Nilgiris and Dharmapuri district is \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is the highest peak in the southern most part of the Eastern Ghats.
- The riverine island of Srirangam is located between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ branches of Cauvery.
- \_\_\_\_\_ soil is suitable for the cultivation of tea and coffee plants.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is the Tamil Nadu state animal which is found in \_\_\_\_\_.



## ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_ dams are located at the foot hills of Anaimalai range.
- \_\_\_\_ wild life sanctuary is located in Virudhunagar district.
- The Vainu Bappu Observatory Kavalur is located on \_\_\_\_\_ hills.
- The hill station \_\_\_\_\_ is known as poorman's Ooty.
- \_\_\_\_ is an important pilgrim centre in Kolli hills.
- \_\_\_\_ is the perennial river of TamilNadu.
- Mettur dam is also called as \_\_\_\_\_.
- River \_\_\_\_\_ is considered sacred by Hindus and festivals are held during this Tamil month of Thai.
- The highest peak of Nilgiri hills is \_\_\_\_\_.
- Kodaikanal is located in the \_\_\_\_\_ district.
- Black soil is also known as \_\_\_\_\_ soil.
- Laterite is formed by the process of \_\_\_\_\_.
- The wettest place in Tamil Nadu is \_\_\_\_\_.

## ANSWER

- |                                  |  |                       |
|----------------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| 1. Coimbatore plateaus.          | 7. Srivilliputhur Grizzled<br>Squirrel | 13. Ponnaiyar.        |
| 2. Solaikaradu                   | 8. Javadhu                             | 14. Doddabetta        |
| 3. Kollidam & Cauvery            | 9. Yercaud                             | 15. Dindigul          |
| 4. Laterite                      | 10. Arpaleeswarar temple.              | 16. Regur.            |
| 5. Nilgiri Tahr & Nilgiri hills. | 11. Thamirabarani.                     | 17. intense leaching. |
| 6. Aliyar and Tirumurthy.        | 12. Stanley Reservoir.                 | 18. Chinnakallur      |



## PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY OF TAMIL NADU

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### III. Match the following:



#### TEXTUAL QUESTION

A)

- |                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Winter season      | a. Pre-monsoon          |
| 2. Summer season      | b. June to September    |
| 3. Southwest monsoon  | c. March to May         |
| 4. North east monsoon | d. January and February |
| 5. Mango shower       | e. October to December  |

**Ans:**  
1) d  
2) c  
3) b  
4) e  
5) a



#### ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

B)

District	Hills
1. Dharmapuri	a. Marunthu vazhmalai
2. Erode	b. Karyamalai
3. Kanniyakumari	c. Theerthmalai
4. Salem	d. Rathina malar
5. Vellore	e. Chennai hills

**Ans:**  
1) c  
2) e  
3) a  
4) b  
5) d

C)

District	Waterfalls
1. Theni	a. Agayagangai
2. Nammakkal	b. Ayyanar
3. Virudhunagar	c. Kumbakkrai
4. Tiruppur	d. Kaalikesam
5. Kanniyakumari	e. Tirumurthy

**Ans:**  
1) c  
2) a  
3) b  
4) e  
5) d

D)

Wild life	District
1. Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary	a. Coimbatore
2. Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary	b. Tirunelveli
3. Gangaikondan Spotted Deer Sanctuary	c. Thoothukudi
4. Vallanadu Black Buck Spotted Deer Sanctuary	d. Erode
5. Sathyamangalam Wildlife Sanctuary	e. Nagapattinam

**Ans:**  
1) e  
2) a  
3) b  
4) c  
5) d

E)

Bird Sanctury	District
1. Pulicat Lake Birds Sanctury	a. Kancheepuram
2. Karikili Birds Sanctury	b. Villupuram
3. Karaivetti Birds Sanctury	c. Tiruvarur
4. Oussudu Lake Birds Sanctury	d. Ariyalur
5. Vaduvoor Birds Sanctury	e. Tiruvallur

**Ans:**  
1) e  
2) a  
3) d  
4) b  
5) c

**IV. Assertion type question:**

1. **Assertion (A) :** Tamil Nadu does not receive much rainfall from southwest monsoon.

**Reasoning (R) :** It is situated in the rain shadow area of the Western Ghats.

- a) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) explains (A)
- b) Both (A) and (R) are true but, (R) does not explain (A)
- c) (A) is true but, (R) is false
- d) (R) is true but, (A) is false

2. **Assertion (A) :** Red soil is rich in iron oxides

**Reasoning (R) :** It is formed by leaching

- a) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) explains (A).
- b) Both (A) and (R) are true but, (R) does not explain (A).
- c) (A) is true but, (R) is false
- d) (R) is true but, (A) is false.

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS**

3. **Assertion (A) :** Soil is one of the important non renewable resources in the world.

**Reason (R) :** It takes 300 - 1000 years to form two inches of soil.

- a) Both (A) and (R) are correct. R explains A
- b) Both (A) and (R) are correct. R does not explain A.
- c) A and (R) are wrong
- d) A is correct and R is wrong

4. **Assertion (A) :** Alluvial soils are formed by the deposition of silt by the rivers.

**Reason (R) :** It is deficient in nitrogen and humus.

- a) Both are correct
- b) Both are wrong
- c) A is correct and R is wrong.
- d) A is wrong and R is correct

**ANSWER**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. a) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) explains (A) | 3. a) Both (A) and (R) are correct. R explains A |
| 2. c) (A) is true but, (R) is false                  | 4. a) Both are correct                           |

**V. Answer in brief****TEXTUAL QUESTIONS**

1. **State the boundaries of Tamil Nadu.**

Tamilnadu is bounded by Bay of Bengal in the east

- Kerala in the west
- Karnataka in the northwest
- Andhra Pradesh in the north
- Indian Ocean in the south.

2. **List out the districts of Tamilnadu which are partly/fully located on Eastern and Western Ghats separately.**

**Districts located on the Western ghats:**

- Nilgiri
- Dindigul
- Tirunelveli
- Kanyakumari
- Virudhunagar
- Dindigul



## PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY OF TAMIL NADU

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**Districts located on the Eastern ghats:**

- Vellore
- Salem
- Perambalur
- Tiruvanamalai
- Namakkal
- Erode

**3. What is 'Teri'?**

The sand dunes formed along the coast of Ramanathapuram and Thoothukudi districts are called Teri.

**4. How is coastal plain formed?**

Coastal plains are formed by the rivers that flow towards the east and drain in to the Bay of Bengal.

**5. Name the major islands of Tamil Nadu.**

Pamban, Hare, Krusadai Nallathanni Theevu, Pullivasal, Srirangam, Upputanni, Island Grounds, Kattupalli Island, Quibble Island and Vivekananda Rock Memorial are some major islands of Tamilnadu.

**6. Name the tributaries of river Thamirabarani.**

The tributaries of river Tamirabarani are:

- Karaiyar
- Manimuthar
- Pachaiyar
- Servalar
- Gadananathi
- Chittar
- Ramanathi

**7. Define: Disaster Risk Reduction.**

Disaster risk reduction is the concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through systematic efforts to analyse and reduce the causal factors of disasters.

**8. During cyclone, how does the Meteorological department warn the fishermen?**

Fishermen should keep a radio set with extra batteries handy; keep boats and rafts tied up safely and should not venture out in the sea.

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS****9. What are the seasons of TamilNadu?**

- Winter season (Jan-Feb)
- Southwest monsoon season (June-Sep)
- Summer season (March-May)
- Northeast monsoon season (Oct-Dec)

**10. Define: Coriolis force.**

An apparent force acts as a result of the earth's rotation deflects moving objects (such as projectiles or air currents) to the right in the northern hemisphere and to the left in the southern hemisphere.

**11. Define: Natural vegetation.**

Natural vegetation refers to the forest cover.

**12. What are the major factors that control the distribution of natural vegetation?**

- Land forms
- Nature of soil
- Temperature
- Rainfall

**13. How do you classify forest?**

- Tropical evergreen forest
- Tropical deciduous forest
- Tropical Thorn forest
- Montane temperate forest
- Mangroves



**14. Mention the Bio-sphere Reserves in Tamilnadu**

- i) Nilgiri Bio-sphere Reserve.
- ii) Gulf of Mannar Bio-sphere Reserve.
- iii) Agasthiyamalai Bio-sphere Reserve.

**15. Define: Disaster**

A sudden natural catastrophe that causes great damage or loss to lives and properties is called as disaster.

**16. What is land slide?**

A collapse of a mass of earth or rock from a mountain or cliff is called landslide.

**17. Name some famous beaches in Tamilnadu.**

- Marina beach
- Elliot beach
- Kovalam beach
- Silver beach

**18. Name the hill stations found in the Western and Eastern Ghats of Tamil Nadu.**

- **Western Ghats:** Ooty, Coonoor and Kothagiri
- **Eastern Ghats:** Yercaud

**19. Define : Soil**

Soil in the loose material mainly formed by the weathering and erosion of rocks.

**20. What are the factors responsible for the formation of soil?**

- Climate
- Parent rocks
- Vegetative cover of the respective places.

**21. What are the uses of soil?**

- It forms an important element of agriculture.
- It provides essential minerals and nutrients for the growth of vegetation.

**22. What are the main physical divisions of Tamil Nadu?**

- Western Ghats
- Coastal plains
- Plateaus
- Eastern Ghats
- Inland plains

**23. What are the factors responsible for soil erosion in Tamilnadu**

- Deforestation
- Overgrazing
- Urbanisation
- Heavy rain

**24. What is the role of Mangroves in coastal zone management.**

Mangroves help in the prevention of coastal erosion from waves and storms. It also protects coral reefs and sea grass meadows from being smothered in sediments.

**25. What are the other names of Pothigai hills?**

Pothigai hills are called with different names such as the Shiva Jothi Parvath, Agasthiyar hills and Southern Kailash.

**26. What is meant by 'Sholas'?**

Montane temperate forest is found in sheltered valleys of Anaimalai, Nilgiris and Palani hills over a 1000m altitude. They are known as 'Sholas'

**27. Where can you see the Mangrove forests to a considerable extent in Tamilnadu?**

- Pichavaram
- Muthupet
- Thoothukudi
- Vedaranyam
- Chatram



## VI. Distinguish between the following



### TEXTUAL QUESTIONS

#### 1. WESTERN GHATS AND EASTERN GHATS.

Western ghats	Eastern ghats
1. It is a continuous range.	It is a discontinuous and irregular one.
2. Its height ranges from 2000 to 3000 m	Its height ranges from 1100m to 1600m.
3. The Nilgiris, Anaimalai, Palani hills, Cardamom hills, Varusanadu, Andipatti and Agasthiyar hills are the major hills.	The Javadhu, Servarayan, the Kalrayan, Kollimalai and Pachaimalai are the major hills.
4. Doddabetta is the highest peak here.	Solaikaradu(1620m) is the highest peak here.
5. Ooty, Coonoor and Kodaikanal are the major hill stations located on the hills.	Yercaud is the hill station located on this range.

#### 2. SOUTHWEST MONSOON AND NORTHEAST MONSOON

South West monsoon	North-East monsoon
1. It blows from June to September	It blows from October to December.
2. Tamil Nadu receives only a meagre rainfall from this monsoon.	This is the main rainy season of TamilNadu.
3. The Southern districts like Kanniyakumari, Tirunelveli and the Nigiris receive rainfall during this period.	Coastal districts of the state get nearly 60% of their annual rainfall and the interior districts get 40-50% of the annual rainfall during this season.

#### 3. TROPICAL EVERGREEN AND TROPICAL DECIDUOUS FORESTS.

Tropical evergreen forests	Tropical deciduous forests
1. This type of forest is found in the regions that receive heavy rainfall.	Tropical deciduous forest are found in areas where the rainfall is below 200 cm.
2. The trees do not shed their leaves.	The trees shed their leaves during dry season.
3. The major tree species of this forest are cinnamon, malabar ironwood, panasa, Java plum/jamun, Jack, kindal, ayani and crape myrtle.	Some trees of this forest are silk cotton, kapok kadamba, dog teak, womens toungue, axlewood and siris.
4. These forests are found in the upper slopes of Western Ghats of Tirunelveli, Kanniyakumari and the Nilgiris districts.	These forests are found in the margin of semi-evergreen and evergreen forests.



## ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

## 4. ALLUVIAL SOIL AND BLACK SOIL

Alluvial soil	Black soil
1. It is formed by the deposition of rivers.	It is formed by weathering of igneous rocks.
2. It is porous and loamy in nature.	It is fine textured and clayey in nature.
3. It is rich in minerals such as lime, potassium, magnesium, nitrogen and phosphoric acid.	Chief minerals found in this soil are calcium, magnesium, carbonates, potash and lime.
4. Crops cultivated here are paddy, sugarcane, banana and turmeric.	Cotton, sorghum, cumbu and fodder crops are major crops cultivated in this soil.

## 5. INLAND PLAINS AND COASTAL PLAINS

Inland plains	Coastal plains
1. Inland plains are drained by rivers Palar, Ponnaiyar, Cauvery and Thamirabarani.	Coastal plains are formed by the rivers that flow towards east and drain in the Bay of Bengal.
2. It is found in Salem, Erode, Karur, Thiruchirapalli, Pudukkottai, Thanjavur, Thiruvarur and Nagapattinam districts.	It is extended from Chennai to Kanyakumari.

## 6. BLACK SOIL AND RED SOIL

Black soil	Red soil
1. Black soil is formed by the weathering of igneous rocks.	Red soil is formed by the weathering of the crystalline and metamorphic rocks.
2. It is fine textured and clayey in nature.	It is sandy and loamy in nature.
3. It is rich in magnesium, Calcium Carbonates, potash and lime.	It is rich in iron oxides.
4. Cotton, sorghum, cumbu and fodder grows well in this soil.	Paddy, ragi, tobacco and vegetables grow here.
5. This soil is found in Coimbatore, Madurai, Virudhunagar, Tirunelveli and Thoothukudi districts.	This soil is found in Sivagangai and Ramanathapuram districts.

## VII. Give reasons for the following:



## TEXTUAL QUESTIONS

## 1. Eastern Ghats are not a continuous range.

Because it is dissected at many places by the rivers, which drain into the Bay of Bengal.

## 2. Tamil Nadu receives low rainfall during southwest monsoon.

Tamilnadu is located in the rain shadow region for the wind, which blows from the Arabian Sea. As a result, TamilNadu receives only a meagre rainfall from this monsoon.



## PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY OF TAMIL NADU

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3. **Alluvial soil is fertile.**

Alluvial soil is fertile, as they are rich in minerals such as lime, potassium, magnesium, nitrogen and phosphoric acid.

4. **Cuddalore is a multiprone disaster zone.**

Cuddalore is one of the most flood prone districts of the state. It is also one of the cyclone prone districts. Cuddalore has also been affected by Tsunami. Earthquake has also caused some damage in Cuddalore in 2011. So it is a multiprone disaster zone.

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS**5. **Cardamom hills are also known as Yela Mala hills.**

It acquires its name from the cardamom spice, which is commonly grown here.

6. **The lowest hill range which spreads over the districts of Perambalur, Tiruchirappalli and Salem is named as 'Pachaimalai'.**

In Tamil language, pachai means green. The vegetation in this range is greener than the vegetative cover of the other hills in this region. Hence it is named as 'Pachai malai'.

7. **The temperature of Tamilnadu is relatively high throughout the year.**

The Tropic of Cancer divides India roughly into two equal parts and the state Tamilnadu lies to the south of Tropic of Cancer, which is near the equator. As it receives vertical sunrays, the temperature of the state is relatively high throughout the year.

8. **River Thamirabarani is perennial in nature.**

River Thamirabarani is perennial in nature because it is fed by both southwest monsoon and northeast monsoon.

9. **Rivers of Tamil Nadu flow towards east.**

Because the topography of the state slopes towards east.

10. **It is necessary to conserve soil resources.**

Soil erosion reduces the fertility of soil which in turn reduces agricultural productivity. So we should conserve soil resources.

**VIII. Answer in a paragraph****TEXTUAL QUESTIONS**1. **Describe the nature of the plateau region of Tamilnadu.**

- Plateaus of Tamil Nadu are located between the Western Ghats and the Eastern Ghats.
- It is triangular in shape. It covers an area of 60,000 sq.km.
- Its height increases from east to west.
- This plateau is broader in the north and very narrow in the south.
- It has many subdivisions.

**Bharamahal plateau:**

- Bharamahal plateau is a part of Mysore plateau. It is situated in the northwestern part of Tamil Nadu.
- Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri districts are located in this region.



### **Coimbatore plateau:**

- It lies between the Nilgiris and Dharmapuri districts.
- This region includes Salem, Coimbatore and Erode districts.
- The area of this plateau is about 2,560 sq.km.
- Moyar river separates this plateau from the Mysore plateau.
- Rivers Bhavani, Noyyal and Amaravathi form valleys in this region.

### **Sigur plateau:**

- Sigure plateau is found in the Nilgiris region.

### **Madurai plateau:**

- Madurai plateau is found in Madurai district.
- It extends upto the foothills of the Western Ghats.
- Vaigai and Thamirabarani basins are located in this plateau.

## **2. Write an account on river Cauvery.**

- The river Cauvery originates at Talacauvery in the Kodagu district of Karnataka in the Western ghats.
- It forms Hogenakkal waterfalls in Dharmapuri District.
- Mettur dam is located across the river in Salem district.
- A tributary called Bhavani joins Cauvery on the right bank.
- Bhavani, Noyyal and Amaravathi are its tributaries. Bhavani and Noyyal join Cauvery at Thirumukkudal and this region is called "Aganda Cauvery".
- In Tiruchirapalli district, the river branches into two parts. The northern branch is called Coleroon or Kollidam and the southern branch remains the Cauvery. These two again join to form Srirangam Island.
- Kallanai has been constructed across Cauvery.
- The delta of Cauvery in the coast is called as the 'Garden of South India'.
- It merges into Bay of Bengal to the south of Cuddalore.

## **3. Explain the characteristic features of summer and winter season of Tamil Nadu.**

### **Winter season:**

- During January and February, the vertical rays of the sun fall between the Tropic of Capricorn and the Equator. Hence, Tamil Nadu and India on the whole receive slanting rays from the sun.
- So, the weather is slightly cooler during these months. The difference between summer and winter temperature is not very high. Winter temperature in Tamilnadu varies from 15°C to 25°C.

### **Summer Season:**

- The apparent migration of the Sun towards north during March, April and May results in the reception of vertical sun's rays by South India. Thus there is a steady rise in temperature from the equator. Hence, Tamil Nadu located to the south of Topic of Cancer, experiences high temperature.
- Generally the temperature varies from 30°C to more than 40°C. During this season particularly in the month of May, southern part of the state receives some rainfall from pre-monsoon showers (Mango/Blossom showers) and some parts experience convectional rainfall.



## PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY OF TAMIL NADU

## 4. What is desertification and write about the areas affected by it in TamilNadu.

- Desertification is the process of becoming or making something a desert.
- Desertification is one of the major problems of Tamil Nadu.
- According to the desertification atlas prepared by the ISRO about 12% of the total geographical area is under desertification.
- Theni, Nilgiris and Kanniakumari are the worst affected districts in Tamil Nadu.
- Theni and Rajapalayam districts are affected by sand deposition.

## 5. Bring out the types and distribution of soils in Tamil Nadu.

## Types of soil:

- |                  |                  |                |
|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1. Alluvial soil | 3. Red soil      | 5. Saline soil |
| 2. Black soil    | 4. Laterite soil |                |

## 1. Alluvial soil :

## Characteristics :

Alluvial soils are generally fertile as they are rich in minerals such as lime, Potassium, Magnesium, Nitrogen and phosphoric acid.

It is deficient in nitrogen and humus. It is porous and loamy.

## Crops cultivated:

Paddy, sugarcane, banana and turmeric.

## Distribution:

This type of soil is found in the districts of Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Villupuram, Cuddalore, Tirunelveli and Kanniakumari.

## 2. Black soil:

## Formation :

Black soil are formed by weathering of igneous rocks.

## Characteristics :

It is fine textured and clayey in nature. It is poor in phosphoric acid, nitrogen and organic matter.

## Crops cultivated:

Cotton, Sorghum, Cumbu and fodder crops.

## Distribution:

It is found in Coimbatore, Madurai, Virudhunagir, Tirunelveli and Thoothukudi districts.

## 3. Red soil:

## Characteristics :

This soil is sandy and loamy in texture. Red soil is porous, friable and non-retentative of moisture.

## Crops cultivated:

Paddy, ragi ,tobacco and vegetables.

## Distribution:

It is found in Sivagangai and Ramanathapuram districts.

## 4. Laterite soil :

## Formation:

It is formed by the process of intense leaching.

## Crops cultivated:

Paddy, ginger, pepper, plantains, coffee and tea.



**Distribution :**

Kancheepuram, Tiruvallur, Thanjavur and Nilgiris districts.

**5. Saline soil :**

It is confined to the Coromandel coast. Vedaranyam has a pocket of saline soil.

**6. Name the areas which are affected by landslides. What will you do before, during and after landslides?**

A collapse of a mass of earth or rock from a mountain or cliff is called slide.

The areas which are affected by landslides are Nilgiris, Coimbatore and Palani hill.

**Risk Reduction Measures:**

**Before:**

Create awareness; stay alert and awake; monitor the news updates; make evacuation plan; listen for any unusual sounds that might indicate moving debris such as trees cracking, boulders knocking and consider leaving the place of landslide if it is safe to do so.

**During:**

**If indoors:**

Find cover in the section of the building that is farthest away from the approaching landslide; take shelter under a strong table or bench. Hold on firmly and stay until all movement has ceased.

**If outdoors:**

Move quickly away from its likely path, keeping clear of embankments, trees, power lines and poles; avoid crossing roads and bridges and stay away from the landslide because the slope may experience additional failures for hours to days afterwards.

**After:**

Stay away from the slide area; listen to local radio or television stations for the latest emergency information; watch for flooding, which may occur after a landslide or debris flow; check for injured and trapped persons near the slide, without entering the direct slide area.



**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS**

**7. Write short notes on formation of Tamilnadu.**

**Formation of Tamilnadu**

**Sangam age:**

➤ During the Sangam age, the Tamilzhagam was ruled by three great emperors – Cheras, Cholas and Pandiyas – and virtuous kings ruling small kingdoms like Adhiyaman and Pari.

**Kalabras age:**

➤ For a short time, the Tamil country was ruled by the Kalabras, but not much about their time is recorded or known.

**Others:**

➤ After the Kalabras, the Tamil country came under the control of the Pallavas, Cholas, Pandiyas, Marathas, Mughals and Vijayanagara empires in succession until the British took administrative control over the entire country, starting from Madras.

**British period:**

➤ During the British period, our country was divided into three presidencies, namely Madras, Bombay and Calcutta for political and military purposes.



## PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY OF TAMIL NADU

**Don**

- TamilNadu and parts of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka and Orissa (Odisha) constituted the Madras Presidency.
- After independence linguistic division of states came into existence. The first linguistic state was Andhra Pradesh.
- After bifurcation, there were only 13 districts in Madras state.
- The Madras state was renamed as Tamil Nadu by C.N.Annadurai, former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, on January 14, 1969.

### 8. Write an essay on natural vegetation of Tamilnadu.

#### Tropical evergreen forest :

- It is found in the upper slopes of Western Ghats of Tirunelveli, Kanniakumari, the Nilgiris and Coimbatore districts.
- The major tree species of this forest this forest are cinnamon, Malabar ironwood, panasa, java plum/jamun, jack, kindal, ayani and crape myrtle.

#### Montane temperate forest :

- The trees in this forest are evergreen and usually short.
- Nilgiri champa, wights litsea and rose apple are the common trees found in this forest.

#### Tropical deciduous forest :

- The trees in this forest shed their leaves during the dry season.
- The trees reach up to a height of 30 metres.
- Some trees of this forest are silk cotton, kapok, kadamba, dog teak, woman's tougue, axlewood and siris. Bamboos are also common in this type of forests.

#### Mangroves:

- The vegetation of this forest is adapted to survive in tidal mud and salt water.
- Asiatic mangrove, white mangrove, wild jasmine/Indian pivot, etc. are some of the notable trees.
- Pichavaram, Vedaranyam, Muthupet, Chatram and Thoothukudi are the places in Tamil Nadu where the mangrove forest is found to a considerable extent.

#### Tropical thorn forest:

- Thorn forest in Tamilnadu is found where there is little rainfall.
- These forests are found from plains up to 400 meters altitude.
- The common trees of this forest are rusty acacia, wheel,neem and palm. Shrubs are common vegetation in this type of forest.

### 9. Name the areas which are affected by cyclones. What will you do before, during and after landslide.?

#### Cyclone:

Based on the cyclone hit areas, the state of Tamilnadu can be divided into five zones namely very high, high, medium, low and very low cyclone prone zones. Southern part of Chennai, eastern part of Kancheepuram, eastern part of Villupuram, northeastern part of Cuddalore and Union Territory of Puducherry fall under the very high cyclone prone zone.

Nagapattinam, Tiruvallur, Tiruvarur (except northwestern part), southern part of Thanjavur, eastern part of Pudukkottai, eastern part of Cuddalore, middle portion of Villupuram, eastern part of Tiruvannamalai, western part of Kancheepuram, northeastern part of Vellore and northern part of Chennai districts are included in the high cyclone prone zone.



**Risk reduction measures:**

**Before:**

Ignore rumors, stay calm, don't panic; Keep your mobile phones charged to ensure connectivity; use sms; listen to radio; watch TV; read newspapers for weather updates. Keep your documents and valuables in water proof containers; prepare an emergency kit with essential items for survival; secure your house; carry out repairs; don't leave sharp objects loose; unite cattle/animals for their safety. Fishermen should keep a radio set with extra batteries handy; keep boats and rafts tied up safely and don't venture out in the sea.

**During:**

Take care of the old and young, keep all family members inside the house; switch off all electrical appliances, stay in an empty room, movable items should be kept securely tied; try to help your neighbours but, don't go out during cyclone.

**After:**

Strictly avoid loose electrical wires after the cyclone; beware of snakes and other animals immediately after the cyclone; clear debris and carcasses from/ near the premise after the cyclone and report losses truthfully and accurately to the authorities.

**10. Write some methods of Water conservation.**

Protection of water from pollution; redistribution of water; rational use of groundwater; population control; renovation of traditional water sources; use of modern irrigation methods; increasing forest cover; changing crop pattern; flood management and use of geothermal water are some of the major water conservation methods.

**VIII. HOTS:**



**TEXTUAL QUESTIONS**

1. Name the first state of India created on linguistic basis.

Andhra Pradesh

2. Why was the capital of Tamilnadu renamed?

As a result of the 1956 States Reorganisation Act the state boundaries were reorganised on some linguistic lines. So the state was finally renamed as Tamilnadu.

3. What is the meaning of "Chennai"?

The word 'Chennai' in Tamil means 'face'.

4. Why are mountain heights measured from mean sea level and not from ground level?

Sea level is the base level for measuring elevation and depth on earth. Because the ocean is one continuous body of water, its surface tends to seek the same level throughout the world.

5. Is Ooty located on Western Ghats?

It is situated in a place where the Eastern Ghats meets the Western Ghats.

6. Name the hill stations located in Western and Eastern Ghats of Tamil Nadu.

**Hill stations on the Western ghats:** Coonoor, Kodaikanal, Ooty.

**Eastern ghats:** Yelagiri and Yercaud.

7. Why is the Nilgiri hills called as Blue Mountains?

Due to Kurunji flower which blooms every twelve years giving the slopes a bluish tinge.

8. What is Agni Nakshatram?

The Mercury is soaring in Tamilnadu during the summer months, especially in May. This phenomenon is when the heat is likely to be much worse than what it is right now.



## MAP WORK

## 1. Tamil Nadu - Political

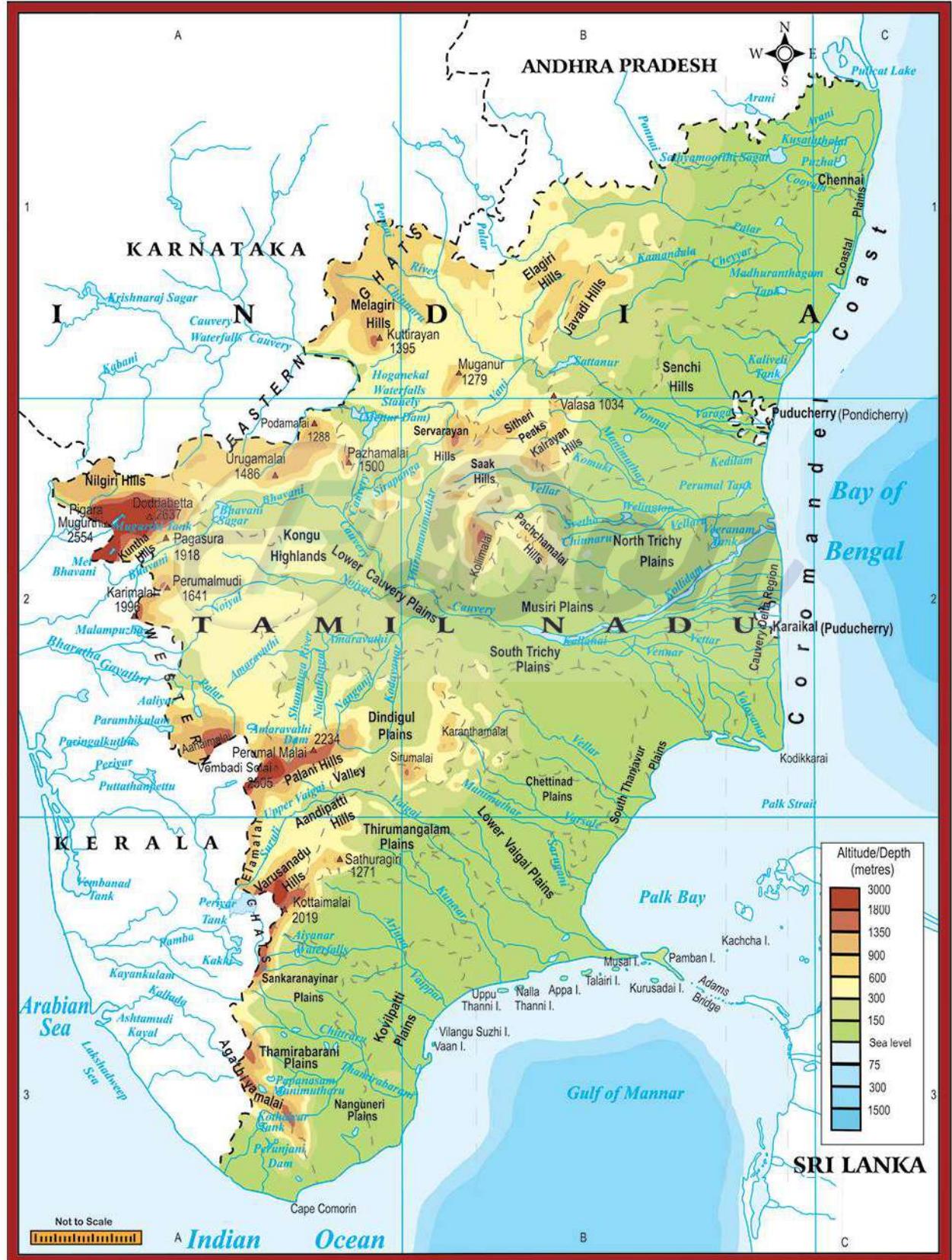
## TAMIL NADU - POLITICAL





## **2. Tamil Nadu - Physical**

## TAMIL NADU - PHYSICAL

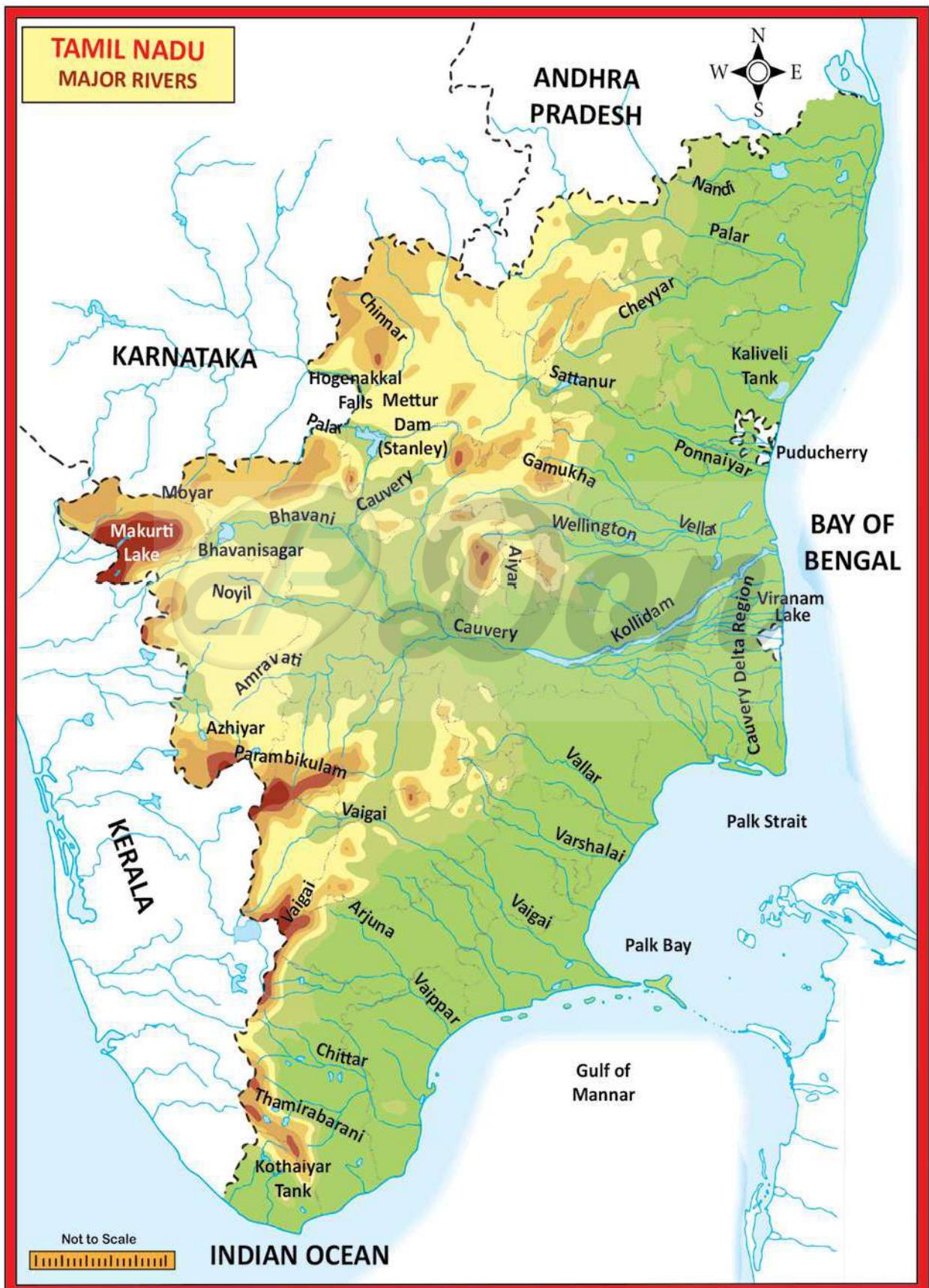




## PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY OF TAMIL NADU

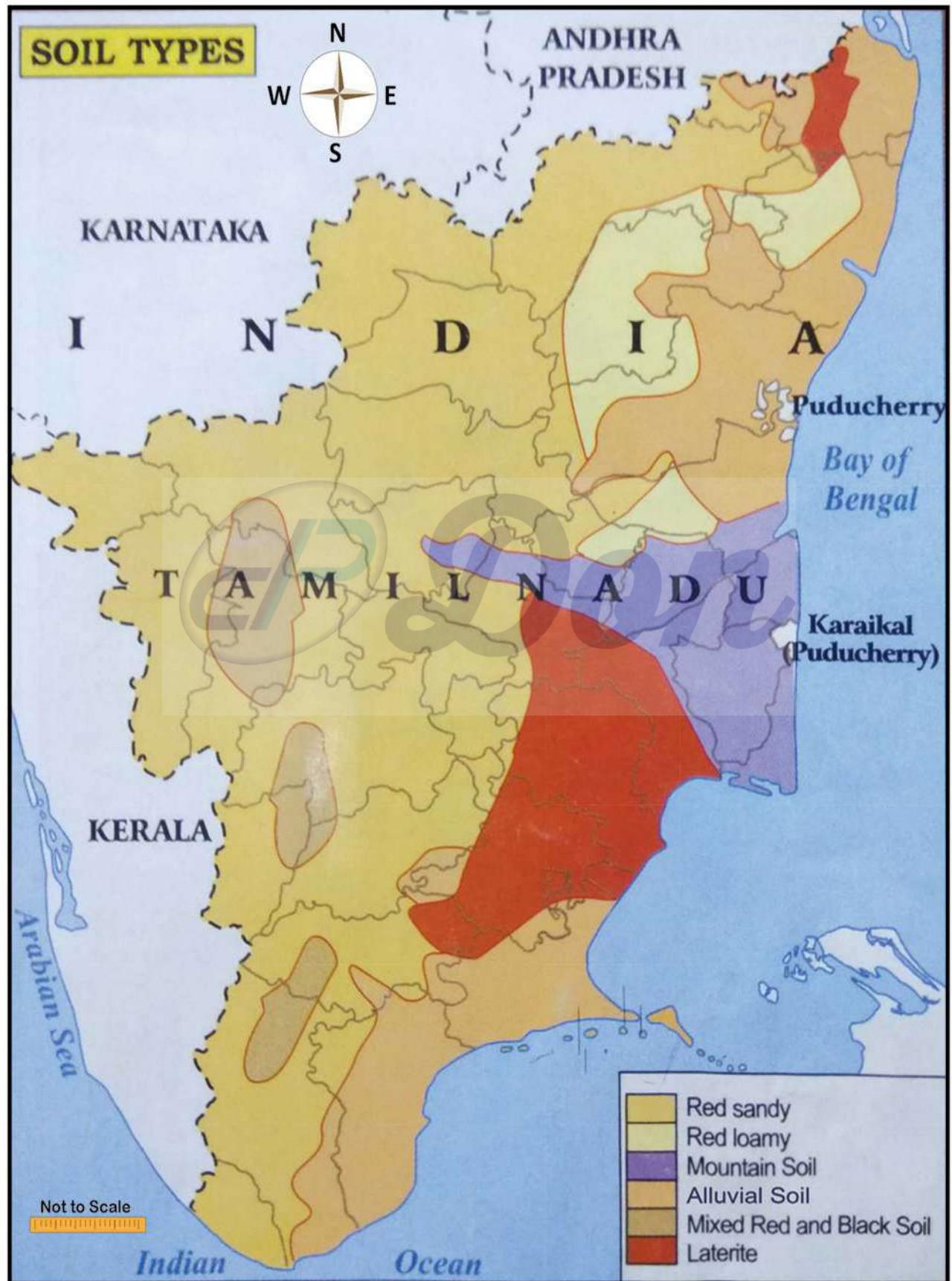
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### 3. Tamil Nadu - Major Rivers





4. Tamil Nadu - Soil Types





10

**Unit Test****UNIT - VI – Physical Geography of Tamil Nadu**

Marks : 30

Time : 1.00 hr.

**I. Choose the correct answer:** $3 \times 1 = 3$ 

1. The highest peak in Tamilnadu is \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) Anaimudi      b) Doddabetta      c) Mahendragiri      d) Servarayan
2. The district with largest mangrove forest cover in Tamilnadu is \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) Ramanathapuram      b) Nagapattinam  
c) Cuddalore      d) Theni
3. Retreating mosoon wind picks up moisture from \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) Arabian Sea      b) Bay of Bengal      c) Indian Ocean      d) Timor Sea

**II. Fill in the blanks:** $3 \times 1 = 3$ 

1. \_\_\_\_\_ soil is suitable for the cultivation of tea and coffee plants.
2. The Vainu Bappu observatory, Kavalur is located on \_\_\_\_\_ hills.
3. Mettur dam is also called as \_\_\_\_\_.

**III. Answer the following questions (Any five):** $5 \times 2 = 10$ 

1. State the boundaries of Tamilnadu.
2. What is Teri?
3. Name the major islands of Tamilnadu.
4. Define: Disaster Risk Reduction.
5. The tempertaure of Tamilnadu is relatively high throughout the year – Give reason.
6. What are the seasons of Tamilnadu?
7. Define ‘Coriolis force’
8. What is meant by ‘Sholas’?

**IV. Distinguish between (Any two):** $2 \times 2 = 4$ 

1. Western ghats and Eastern ghats.
2. South west monsoon and Northeast monsoon.
3. Tropical evergreen and Tropical deciduous forest.

**V. Answer in a paragraph (Any two):** $2 \times 5 = 10$ 

1. Write an account on river Cauvery.
2. Bring out the types and distribution of soil in Tamilnadu.
3. Write a note on conservation of water.
4. Name the areas which are affected by earthquake. What will you do before and after earthquakes?

