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2020

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Climate of India

- ◆ India lies in North east part of northern hemisphere
- ◆ India lies between temperate zone and torrid zone
- ◆ Climate of India is tropical monsoon
- ◆ India is a tropical country because of its tropical monsoon climate
- ◆ Climate refers to the sum total of weather conditions and variations over large area for a long period of time (,more than 30 years)
- ◆ Weather is the state of atmosphere over an area at any point of time
- ◆ The seasons of India can be generally classified in of four
 1. Cold weather season (Winter season)
 2. Summer season (Hot weather season)
 3. South west monsoon (Advancing monsoon)
 4. North east monsoon (Retracting monsoon)

1. Cold Weather Season

- ◆ India experiences winter when the position of the sun is over the southern hemisphere.
- ◆ The cold weather season begins in December and stays till February.
- ◆ January is the coldest month in India.
- ◆ Most places in India experience intense fog and snowfall occurs in valleys of the Himalayas during this season.
- ◆ The temperature decreases from the south to north.
- ◆ The phenomenon called western disturbance is another peculiarity of the season. These cyclonic winds originate near the Mediterranean sea and move eastwards one their way they collect moisture from Persian gulf and shed it in the north western part of India, especially in the Punjab region during winter seasons. This rains is much beneficial for the winter crops. (Rabi crops) especially west
- ◆ Jet streams are a narrow belt of fast blowing winds located in the tropopause. They have a significant role in bringing. The influence of the western disturbance to India.
- ◆ The western disturbance reach northern plain through the sulaiman gap in Pakistan.

Summer Season

- ◆ India experiences summer when the sun is over the northern hemisphere. It begins from March till May.
- ◆ Localized dust storms and thunder storms are very common during this season in Northern India.
- ◆ Loo, Mango showers, norwesters are some local winds experienced in India during this season.

Monsoon

- ◆ The word monsoon is derived from the Arabic word 'mausim' which literally means seasons.
- ◆ Mariners from India's east coast exploited monsoon winds to sail to south east Asia.
- ◆ Agriculture in India is depend on these monsoon rains, so this monsoon phenomins is also known as India's finance minister.
- ◆ There are two types of monsoon experience in India, they are.

1. South West Monsoon

2. North East Monsoon

1. South West Monsoon (Advancing Monsoon)

- ◆ South West monsoon is formed by the movement of air from the high pressure zone of southern Indian ocean to the low pressure zone of Indian subcontinent.
- ◆ The Arab scholar Hippalus was the first to observe the direction of south west monsoon so this south west. Monsoon is also known as Hippalus winds.
- ◆ South west monsoon begins from June and stays till September.
- ◆ The duration of the monsoon is between 100- 120 days
- ◆ The highest rainfall season of India is caused by south west monsoon.
- ◆ Around the time of its arrival, the normal rainfall increases suddenly and continues constantly for several days. This is known as - Burst of the monsoon
- ◆ Due to the Peninsular shape of India the south west monsoon stream splits into two branches.
 1. Arabian sea branch
 2. Bay of Bengal branch.
- ◆ The Arabian sea branch of South west monsoon causes rainfall in western coast to Gujarat and then because of the presence of Aravalli it moves to Northern great plain.
- ◆ Bay of Bengal branch of south west monsoon causes the heavy rainfall at mawsynram (1221 cm) and cherrapunji (1199 cm) annually
- ◆ Bay of Bengal branch meet the arabian sea branch at punjab Haryens plains /ganga plain and it causes precipitation in Punjab Harayana Plain,.
- ◆ In Kerala south west monsoon is also known as Idvappathi, Kalavarsham, Varshakalam
- ◆ The place which receives maximum rainfall in India - Mawsinram (Meghalaya) (1200 cm)
- ◆ IInd -Cherrapunji (Meghalaya)
- ◆ Mawsynram & Cherapunji are located in Khasi hills of Meghalaya
- ◆ New name of Cherrapunji - Sohra
- ◆ The place which is known as Cherrapunji in South India - Agumbe (Karnataka)
- ◆ The place which is known as Cherrapunji in Kerala- Lakkidi (Wayanad)
- ◆ The place which receives minimum rain fall in India - Leh (Ladakh)
- ◆ Driest place in India - Jaisalmer (Rajasthan)
- ◆ Highest temperature ever recorded in India - 51° c (Phalodi, Rajasthan)
- ◆ Place having lowest temperature in India - Drass (Ladakh)
- ◆ Place which is known as cold desert in India - Ladakh
- ◆ Salt desert in India - Raan of Kutch
- ◆ Average annual rainfall in India- 125 cm
- ◆ Average annual rainfall in Kerala- 300 cm