



# Mountains of India – SSC Notes

## 1. Himalayas (Northern Mountains)

- **Formation:** Fold Mountains, formed by Indian plate + Eurasian plate collision
- **Divisions:**
  1. **Himadri / Greater Himalayas** → Highest & snow-covered peaks
    - Examples: Kangchenjunga (8586 m), Nanda Devi
  2. **Himachal / Middle Himalayas** → Valleys, hill stations, rivers originate
    - Examples: Shimla, Mussoorie
  3. **Shiwaliks / Outer Himalayas** → Low hills, alluvial soil, rivers emerge
    - Examples: Solan, Dehradun foothills
- **Important Passes:** Rohtang, Zoji La, Nathu La
- **Major Rivers Originating:** Indus, Ganga, Brahmaputra
- **Features:** Snow-capped peaks, glaciers, alpine forests, high rainfall

## 2. Karakoram Range

- **Located:** Northernmost India, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh
- **Famous Peak:** K2 (Mount Godwin-Austen, 8611 m) → 2nd highest in the world
- **Features:** Glaciers, passes like Siachen, Khardung La

## 3. Aravalli Range

- **Located:** Rajasthan → Haryana → Gujarat
- **Oldest fold mountains in India**
- **Average height:** 600–1200 m
- **Important Peaks:** Guru Shikhar (Mount Abu)
- **Features:** Rounded hills, minerals (Marble, Mica, Copper)

## 4. Vindhya Range

- **Located:** Central India → Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh
- **Average height:** 300–600 m
- **Separates North India from South India (geographically)**
- **Rivers:** Chambal, Betwa
- **Features:** Plateau-like structure, mainly sedimentary rocks

## 5. Satpura Range

- **Located:** Central India → Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra
- **Average height:** 900–1200 m
- **Features:** Forested hills, plateau-like
- **Rivers:** Narmada, Tapi originate here

## 6. Western Ghats (Sahyadri Hills)

- Located: Western coast → Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala, Goa
- UNESCO World Heritage Site → Biodiversity hotspot
- Average height: 900–1600 m
- Highest Peak: Anamudi (2695 m, Kerala)
- Rivers: Godavari, Krishna, Kaveri originate here
- Features: Evergreen forests, heavy rainfall, monsoon influence

## 7. Eastern Ghats

- Located: Eastern coast → Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu
- Discontinuous range, lower in height (600–1200 m)
- Rivers: Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna
- Features: Rounded hills, mineral-rich (Bauxite, Iron)

## 8. Nilgiri Hills

- Located: Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka junction
- Part of Western Ghats
- Highest Peak: Doddabetta (2637 m, Tamil Nadu)
- Tea gardens, tropical forests, tourism

## Important SSC Points

- Highest Peak in India: Kangchenjunga (Himalayas)
- Highest Peak in India (J&K/Ladakh): K2 (Karakoram)
- Oldest Mountains → Aravalli
- Youngest & Highest → Himalayas
- Rivers Originating from Himalayas → Indus, Ganga, Brahmaputra
- Rivers Originating from Western Ghats → Godavari, Krishna, Kaveri
- Eastern Ghats → Discontinuous, lower in height
- Nilgiris → Part of Western Ghats