

# Peninsular River System – SSC Notes

## 1. Characteristics of Peninsular Rivers

- **Origin:** Peninsular Plateau → Rain-fed
- **Flow:** Seasonal → Dependent on monsoon
- **Gradient:** Gentle slope → Slow-flowing
- **Course:** Shorter than Himalayan rivers → Mostly east or west flowing
- **Features:**
  - Older rivers → Erosion is less, sediment load low
  - Form deltas at mouths (east-flowing)
  - Estuaries present at west-flowing rivers
- **Importance:** Irrigation, hydro-power, inland navigation

## 2. East-flowing Rivers (Bay of Bengal)

River	Origin	State s	Tribut aries	Delta	Notes
Goda vari	Weste rn Ghats (Maha rashtr a)	Maha rashtr a, Telan gana, Andhr a Prade sh	Purna , Pranh ita	Goda vari Delta	Longe st penin sular river (~146 5 km)
Krish na	Weste rn Ghats (Maha rashtr a)	Maha rashtr a, Karna taka, Andhr a Prade sh	Bhim a, Tunga bhad ra	Krish na Delta	Major irrigat ion proje cts → Tunga bhad ra Dam
Kaver i	Weste rn	Karna taka,	Hema vati,	Kaver i	Fertil e

	<b>Ghats (Karn ataka)</b>	<b>Tamil Nadu</b>	<b>Kabin i</b>	<b>Delta</b>	<b>delta, hydro - power poten tial</b>
<b>Maha nadi</b>	<b>Chhat tisgar h</b>	<b>Chhat tisgar h, Odish a</b>	<b>Seona th, Hasd eo</b>	<b>Maha nadi Delta</b>	<b>Hirak ud Dam → Multi purpo se proje ct</b>
<b>Brah mani</b>	<b>Odish a</b>	<b>Odish a</b>	<b>Sankh , South Koel</b>	<b>Delta at Odish a coast</b>	<b>Indus trial &amp; irrigat ion use</b>

#### Features:

- Form deltas → Fertile agricultural lands

- Major crops → Rice, sugarcane, pulses
- Rivers → Mostly navigable in lower course

### **3. West-flowing Rivers (Arabian Sea)**

River	Origin	States	Tributaries	Estuary / Note
Narmada	Amarkantak Plateau (Madhya Pradesh)	MP, Gujarat	Tawa, Hiran	Flows into Arabian Sea, forms rift valley
Tapi (Tapti)	Satpura Hills (Madhya Pradesh)	MP, Maharashtra, Gujarat	Purna, Girna	Short, fast-flowing, estuary formation
Mandovi	Western	Goa	None	Estuary →

	<b>Ghats (Goa)</b>			<b>Ports &amp; fisheries</b>
<b>Zuari</b>	<b>Western Ghats (Goa)</b>	<b>Goa</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Estuary → Port &amp; navigation</b>

#### Features:

- Short & fast-flowing → Hydro-electric projects
- Narrow valleys & estuaries
- Fertile plains less extensive than eastern rivers

## 4. Inland / Endorheic Rivers

- Definition: Rivers that do not reach sea → Drain into lakes or deserts
- Examples: Luni (Rajasthan), Sabarmati (Gujarat), Mahi (Gujarat/Madhya Pradesh)
- Importance: Irrigation in arid & semi-arid regions

## 5. Important SSC Points – Peninsular Rivers

- East-flowing → Bay of Bengal → Long, fertile delta
- West-flowing → Arabian Sea → Short, estuary formation
- Longest peninsular river → Godavari (~1465 km)
- Narmada → Rift valley, west-flowing, hydro-power
- Major dams → Hirakud (Mahanadi), Tungabhadra (Krishna), Bhakra Nangal (Sutlej, Himalayan)
- Rivers → Seasonal, rain-fed → Depend on monsoon