



V. Short Answer Type Questions

1. Mention the political and administrative divisions of India. [V. Imp.]

Answer: India is a vast country. Hence, for administrative purposes, it is divided into 28 states and 7 Union Territories. Delhi is the capital of India. The formation of states has been made on the basis of languages. Rajasthan is the largest state while Goa is the smallest state in terms of area. These states have been further divided into districts.

2. Write a short note on the coastal plains of India.

Answer: The coastal plains lie to the West of the Western Ghats and the East of the Eastern Ghats. The Western coastal plains are narrow while the eastern coastal plains are much broader. There are several east-flowing rivers such as Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna and Kaveri. These rivers have formed fertile deltas at their mouth.

3. Write a short note on the two groups of islands of India.

Answer: The two groups of islands are—Lakshadweep islands and Andaman and Nicobar islands. Lakshadweep islands are located in the Arabian Sea. These are coral islands located off the coast of Kerala. The Andaman and Nicobar islands are located in the Bay of Bengal.

4. How are coral islands formed? [V. Imp.]

Answer: Corals are skeletons of very small marine animals called polyps. When the living polyps die, their skeletons are left. Other polyps grow on top of the hard skeleton which grows higher and higher, thus forming the coral islands.



Fig. Coral Islands.

5. What do you know about the boundaries of India? Explain in brief. [V. Imp.]

Answer: Our country has a vast geographical expanse. In the north, it is bound by the lofty Himalayas. In the west, lies the Arabian Sea, in the east it is bound by the Bay of Bengal and in the south lies the Indian Ocean.

6. Describe the geographical extent of India. [V. Imp.]

Answer: India has an area of about 3.28 million sq. Km. The north-south extent from Kashmir to Kanyakumari is about 3,200 km. And the east-west extent from Arunachal Pradesh to Kuchchh is about 2,900 km. The lofty mountains, the Great Indian Desert, the Northern Plains, the uneven plateau surface and the coasts and islands present a diversity of landforms.

7. Describe the locational extent of India. [Imp.]

Answer: India is located in the northern hemisphere. The Tropic of Cancer ($23^{\circ} 30' N$) passes almost halfway through the country. From south to north, main land of India extends between $8^{\circ} 4' N$ and $37^{\circ} 6' N$ latitudes. From west to east, India extends between $68^{\circ} 7' E$ and $97^{\circ} 25' E$ longitudes. If we divide the world into eastern and western hemisphere, India will belong to eastern hemisphere.

8. Describe the effect of east-west extent of India on time.

Answer: The west to east extent leads to difference in local time from meridian to meridian. The local time changes by four minutes for every one degree of longitude. The sun rises two hours earlier in the east, i.e. Arunachal Pradesh than in the west, i.e. (Gujarat). The local time of longitude of $82^{\circ} 30' E$ has been taken as the Indian Standard Time. This longitude is also known as the Standard Meridian of India. Its time is taken as the standard throughout the country.

VI. Long Answer Type Questions

1. Describe the major physical division of India. [V. Imp.]

Answer: India has a diverse physical features, such as mountains, plateaus, plains, coasts and islands.

1. The Himalayas: The Himalayas stand sentinels in the north. The Himalayas mountains are divided into three main parallel ranges. The northernmost is the Great Himalaya or Himadri. The world's highest peaks are located in this range. Middle Himalayas or Himachal lies to the south of Himadri. The Shiwalik is the southernmost range.

2. The Northern Indian Plains: They lie to the south of the Himalayas. They are usually level and flat. These are fertile regions and are suitable for cultivation. Thick population is found here.

3. The Great Indian Desert: It lies to the western part of the country. It is a sandy stretch of land. Rainfall is very poor, hence very little vegetation is found here.

4. The Peninsular Plateau: It is triangular in shape. It lies to the south of northern plains. Its relief is highly uneven. Numerous hill ranges and valleys are found here. Aravali hills lie to the north-west side. The Vindhyas and the Satpuras are other important ranges. The Narmada and Tapi flow through these ranges. These west-flowing rivers fall into the Arabian Sea. On the west of the plateau lie the Western Ghats also known as Sahyadris. On the east lie the Eastern Ghats. This plateau is rich in minerals like coal and iron ore.

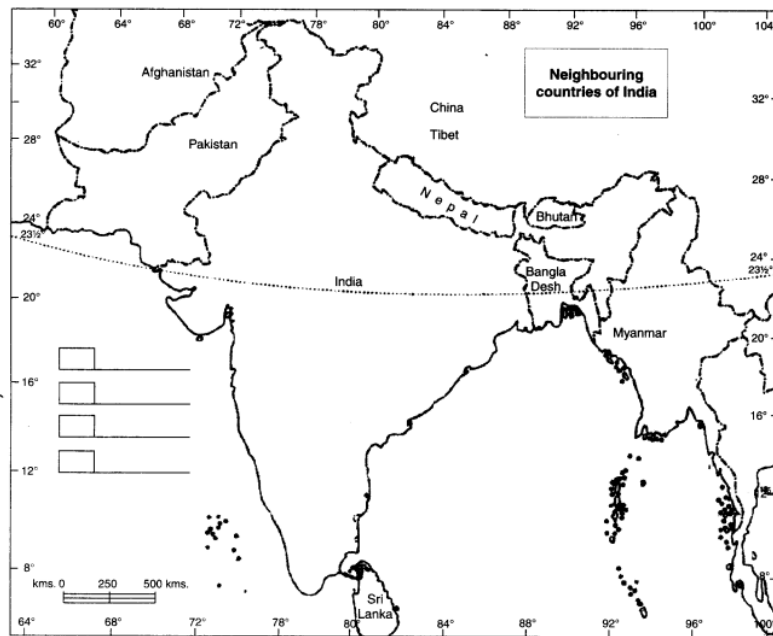
5. Coastal Plains: They lie to the West of the Western Ghats and East of the Eastern Ghats. The rivers Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna and Kaveri (all east flowing rivers) fall into the Bay of Bengal. They have formed fertile deltas at their mouth.

6. Islands: Two groups of islands are integral part of the country. Lakshadweep islands are located in the Arabian Sea while Andaman and Nicobar islands lie to the South-east of the Indian mainland in the Bay of Bengal.

VII. Map Skills

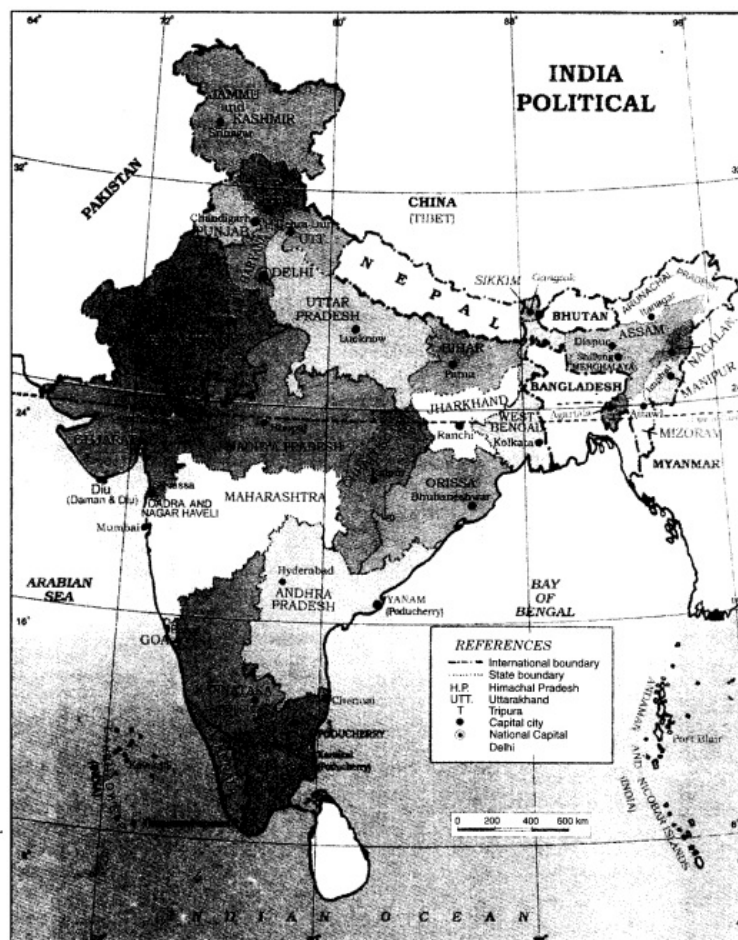
1. On an outline map of India, show its neighbouring countries.

Answer:



2. On an outline political map of India, show all the states and union territories.

Answer:



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