

LIFE IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF INDIA

30.1 Introduction

“Man and environment” has been the subject of geography. Therefore, interaction between man and environment has been the focus as well as a rightful concern of geographic education. In this unit we take a bird’s eye view of life patterns in four major geographic divisions of the country. They are (a) the Northern mountain wall, (b) the Northern plains, (c) the Peninsular plateaus and (d) the Coastal strips.

As children are keenly interested in finding out similarities and dissimilarities between themselves and other people, far and near, they would certainly enjoy such lessons. This lesson can be a launching pad to cover life in different parts of the world as it marks only a difference of degrees and not of kind.

30.2 Objectives

After studying this lesson you will be able to :

- recall major physical divisions of India;
 - explain how altitude, terrain and climate influence man’s daily life, occupations and culture;
 - describe how fertile alluvial lowlands with ample water provide man with opportunities to raise variety of crops;
 - infer how easy availability of food, job opportunities and a network of transport leads to dense population;
 - establish relationship between varied soils, irrigation facilities and agriculture on one hand and between minerals and industry on the other;
 - recognise how irrigation farming, fishing, shipping and international trade lead to development of areas.
 - summarize, how variations in relief, climate, soil, natural vegetation and mineral deposits have made various parts of our country interdependent.
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- prepare suitable teaching aids for teaching the life of people in different part of India.
- suggest suitable methods for teaching different aspects of this lesson.
- prepare suitable lesson plans and unit tests in Geography for primary classes.

30.3 Life in the Mountainous Regions of the North

The write up consists of four parts (a) teaching-learning aids; (b) suggested methods and techniques of teaching; (c) points to be highlighted; and (d) the brief outline of the contents to be covered.

(a) Teaching-Learning Aids : A sketch of mountain ranges from Karakoram to poornvanchal; pictures and models of mountain peaks, passes, river valleys, lakes (e.g. Dal, Nainital etc); Picture of hill stations (e.g.) Shalimar and Nishat gardens around Srinagar; Pictures of snow fall and land slides. Domesticated animals like yak, goat, sheep, cattle, Mithun etc. Pictures of wild life e.g. Himalayan bear, snow leopard, musk deer; Picture of Gaddis, Gujjars, Bhotias, Moplas etc; Animal grazing in alpine grasses during summer; Pictures of Kashmiris in their traditional costumes, their shikaraboats, kangri etc; Pictures of winter sports, water sports; (white water) and mountaineers scaling high peaks;

(b) Suggested Methods of Teaching and Learning Activities

(i) Imaginary air flight from pathankot to leh; (ii) Imaginary visit to Kashmir Valley and places of tourist interest; track to AmarNath (iii) Imaginary page from a diary of Gaddi child; (iv) Story of an expedition to Mt. Everest or Indian men or woman scaling the peak several times. (v) stories of winter sports and how they are becoming more popular. (vi) Scrap-books and their exhibitions. (vii) Using news paper clippings to arouse children's interest. (viii) Pictures of orchards, and handicrafts etc.

(c) Points to be Highlighted (i) How the man's activities and use of land in a mountainous region depends upon the nature of terrain, degree and aspect of slope, the soil cover. (ii) The food, clothes and shelter and its relationship with climate on one hand and locally available crops, forest products and building material on the other. (iii) How the herdsmen take their cattle and other livestock to mountain in summer and climb down after the snow fall, reaching valley bottoms in the peak of winter; and again climbing up the slopes in spring. (iv) How their isolation leads to multiplicity of languages or dialects, special costumes, Peculiar folk dances, musical instruments and folk songs etc. (v) Forced stay in house during long and severe winters leads to the of development of arts and crafts fetching good payment for their designs etc.

(d) Brief Outline of Contents

Karakoram - These lofty mountains lie in northern Kashmir. The river Indus separates it from the Himalayas. It is a region of very high peaks, passes, rivers of ice and snow called glaciers. They are all crowded in a relatively small area.

Himalayas - They are the abode of snow bounded by the Indus in the west and the Brahmaputra in the east in Arunachal Pradesh. They stretch over 2400 km and consist of three parallel ranges. The southern most range is called Shivalik. It

is made of unconsolidated material like mud etc. Its height never exceeds 1600 metres or so. The region is prone to land slides. The next or middle range is called Himachal and is about 3000 metres high. On this range are located all the hill stations of the Himalayas. The third i.e. the northernmost range is called Himadri or Great Himalayas. Its average height is about 5000 metres and all its high peaks are located in this range. World's highest peak Mt Everest is 8848 metres high and is located in Nepal. The high peaks of the Himalayas are covered with ice all the year round.

These mountains act as a natural shield protecting Indian subcontinent from very cold winds of Central and Northern Asia. Likewise, they also help in restricting moisture laden winds to their south. The Himalayan north-eastern mountain are covered with thick forests. Because heavy rains snow fall the Himalayan rivers are perennial in nature. They are therefore good both for irrigation and generation of hydro-electricity are the beneficiaries.

Farming Activity Except in valley bottoms, land for farming is very scarce. However, people have carved out terraced fields along the hill slopes. The stone bunds constructed along the boundary of the fields help in conserving water and soil. The water thus stored in the field is periodically let out so that the field lying at the lower level are also irrigated easily.

Farmers raise rice, barley, oats, potatoes in their fields. Gentle slopes of hills are often used for orchards yield fruits like apple, apricots, peaches, pears, plums, almonds etc. Saffron is grown in Kashmir valley. Animal rearing is another very important economic activity. Sheep, goats and cattle are reared. The herdsmen along with their herds move up and down the valley in summer and winter respectively.

Life in high mountains is very difficult if not harsh. Population therefore is sparse. There are mainly scattered huts and small villages. There is always a danger of heavy rains, flash floods, land slides and even earthquakes. Even the meagre means of communication are blocked or dislocated by such natural calamities.

People trade in fresh and dry fruits, wool, salt, fuelwood, timber, other forest products and medicinal herbs. Despite hard life, people enjoy singing and dancing. Folk dance and folk songs are very popular in each region having a distinct mark of its own. They wear traditional costumes with bright colours and attractive designs. They are fond of celebrating fairs, festivals and worshipping local deities. Basically, it is inaccessibility and isolation that pressure and promotes cultural diversity in mountains.

Rendering Services to Tourists- Now a days the natural beauty of mountains is sold in various ways. Center of tourism are developed where tourists from far and near come to enjoy natural beauty, watch wild life, play winter adventure sports, undertake rock climbing, participate in white water sports. Mountaineering is yet another attraction. Tourist industry promotes local arts, crafts and cottage industries. Many people supplement their meagre income by providing

services to the tourists. Hotels of various descriptions have sprung up. People carry luggage of tourists, guide them, provide transport including ponies and mules. A few among many well known hill resorts are Gulmarg, Pahalgam, Dharamsala, Shimla, Mussoorie, Nainital and Darjeeling. Tourism however also results in pollution of air, water and land.

- * Himalayas acting as a climatic barrier protect the subcontinent from icy cold winds of Central Asia.
- * Himalayas act as a store houses of snow and water providing ample scope for irrigation and hydro-electricity.
- * Himalayas offer world's leading hill resorts.
- * Himalayas shelter forest wealth, medicinal herbs and wild life.
- * Himalayas through their isolated valleys have helped to preserve varied and diverse cultures.

INTEXT QUESTIONS 30.1

1. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words provided at the end of the question :
 - i) The word _____ means home of ice and snow.
 - ii) The _____ is the highest peak of the Himalayas.
 - iii) The Himalayan rivers are perennial because of heavy _____ and _____ fall.
 - iv) Besides ice and snow the Himalayan are also the store house _____ wealth, _____ herbs and _____ power.
 - v) Himalayan slopes are used to construct _____ fields and planting of _____.
 - vi) Hill people are fond of folk _____ and _____.
 - vii) Their traditional clothes are known as _____.

(The list of words is in alphabetical order : costumes, dances, forest, Himalaya, hydel, medicinal, Mount Everest, orchards, rain, snow, folk songs and terraced).

2. Name the teaching - learning aid that you would use in teaching the traditional costumes of the Himalayan people.

30.4 Life in the Northern Plains

(a) Teaching Learning Aids : A map of Northern Mountains and Northern Plains; Maps of Roads and Railways from Amritsar to Tinsukia; Pictures of wild life Reserves-corbet National Park, Kaziranga Nation Park; pictures of traditional and modern agricultural implements to modern tractors, harvesters and combines etc. Grain Mandis in Punjab, Haryana, Westerns UP, pictures of places of interest in

Amritsar, Chandigarh, Delhi, Lucknow, Agra, Kanpur, Allahabad, Varanasi, Patna, Guwahati etc. (v) Bhakra Nangal Dam, Irrigation Canals, Tube wells. Railways yards e.g. Mughalsarai, Tughlakabad etc; Clay models of meandering rivers.

(b) Suggested Methods of Teaching and Learning Activities : A travelogue method to have a bird's eye view of the Satlej- Ganga- Brahmaputra plains and a visit to a tea garden in Brahmaputra valley have already been discussed in lesson 28.7.a). Another way is to do the same with the help of a wall map. In this method the journey must start from the source of the main river and come to a place where river emerges in a plain. viz. satlej at Bhakra; Ganga at Haridwar and Brahmaputra at Passighat. Then river meanders, braided channels with islands and distributaries may be explained to highlight very gentle to no slope at all. The straight national highways and railway line between major cities also indicate to the flat and level nature of land surface. Relationship between relief and rainfall on the one hand and changing crops may also be highlighted. Then use of pictures of places of interest, historical and cultural interests also may point out to dense population since olden times.

(c) Points to be Highlighted Assured nature of rain fall gradually decreasing from east to west. Another point is the distribution of crops viz. rice and jute in the east and wheat and cotton in west and sugarcane in the middle of the two. The Himalayan rivers highly useful for irrigation, hydel power and even responsible for forming plains and bringing new fertile soils during floods. The western half is intensely irrigated changing the cropping pattern as now they grow even rice of good quality and sugarcane. Very dense network of railways and roads, numerous big cities and towns as trading and industrial centres and equally dense villages, all pointing to a very high density of population leading to total clearance of forests and pastures in favour of paying agriculture. The Green Revolution in Punjab, Haryana, Northwest Rajasthan and West Uttar Pradesh may also be highlighted.

(d) Brief Outline of Contents

(i) Terrain : The Himalayas being the storehouse of water and snow, they have given rise to several big rivers. In fact these big rivers are responsible for the formation of the Northern Plains through the mud and silt they have been carrying day in and day out over thousands upon thousands of years. The Indus, the Brahmaputra and the Ganga are the three largest rivers of the region. The Indus and its five tributaries - Satlej, Beas, Ravi, Chenab and Jhelum- have formed the plains of Punjab (the plains of five rivers). Its major part now lies in Pakistan and the combined waters of these rivers finally fall into the Arabian Sea.

The divide between the Indus and Ganga basin runs between the Aravallis and the city of Ambala. It can be hardly seen either on the map or on the ground by a layman. Hence the Northern plains have been a single entity for all practical purposes.

The Ganga Plains are largely the creation of the river Ganga and its Himalayan tributaries - Yamuna, Ghaghra, Gandak and Kosi. Another set of rivers flowing from Malwa and its extensions in the east are Chambal, Betwa, Ken, Son and Damodar. They have also made an humble contribution to the formation of the Northern Plains.

In the Northeast, the river Brahmaputra has been responsible for the formation of Brahmaputra valley confined to Assam in India before it joins the Ganga to form jointly the world's largest delta. The bulk of this delta now lies in Bangladesh and the waters of Gang-Brahmaputra plains fall in the Bay of Bengal. Although the waters of the Northern Plains flow into two seas of the Indian Ocean, the slope of the plains of both the river system Indus and Ganga-Brahmaputra is uniformly very gentle. The entire plains consists of alluvial soil. These soils are well watered by rains in the eastern half. As one moves from east to west i.e. from Assam to Punjab, the rain fall decreases in amount gradually. Also the duration of rainy season diminishes from nearly seven months in Assam to less than two months in Punjab. However, the paucity of rains is more than made up in the western half through an excellent network of irrigation canals supplemented by deep tube wells. No wonder if Northern Plains are called the granary of India.

(ii) **Agriculture** : Northern Plains were once a dense forest land. Today the forests are conspicuous totally by their absence. There is hardly any land left that can be brought under the plough for the extension of agriculture. The rainy plains of the east grow rice and jute as kharif crops. Tea is yet another commercial crop grown under the plantation system of farming. In this part, rice is also grown as a rabi crop as the temperatures are high enough and water is sufficient.

The western half of the plains grow millets, pulses and oilseeds in unirrigated fields. With irrigation facilities it now grows rice, sugarcane, cotton and vegetables etc in the kharif season. In rabi, the major crops are wheat, grams, rape seed and mustard seeds. The western half led by Punjab and Haryana has ushered in a Green Revolution. It means the farmer there gets a much higher yield from a piece of land by using highly improved heavy yielding varieties of seeds, providing adequate and timely irrigation water and applying high doses of manure and chemical fertilisers.

Dairying has now become an attractive occupation as even small and marginal farmers rear cows, and buffaloes for milk. Now that the milk is in plenty. It is also used for making various milk products - butter, cheese, curds and ghee. The new breeds of cattle have been developed to increase milk yield per milch animal.

(iii) **Industries** : These agricultural crops like cotton, jute have led in the development of textile industry scattered over wide areas. Jute textile industry is concentrated in Hooghly basin near Calcutta and cotton textile at Kanpur and Delhi. The handloom and power loom cotton textile industry widely spread all over the region.

Sugar and vegetable oil are the two important agrobased industries concentrated in west and central Uttar Pradesh, North Bihar, Haryana, Punjab.

(iv) **Transports** : The region being very flat and very thickly populated, it has a dense network of roads and railways. It has numerous cities, towns and places of historical and cultural importance. In historical times the region has been the cradle of Indian civilization standing very distinct from other parts of the world. Such places from west to east are Amritsar, Chandigarh, Delhi, Agra, Lucknow, Kanpur, Allahabad, Varanasi, Sarnath, Patna, Gaya, Calcutta and Guwahati.

(v) **Cultural Aspect :** The region being flat and means of communication very easy, the Hindi language along with its various dialects is spread over a wide region stretching from Ambala in the west to Raj Mahal hills in the east. Urdu is also widely spoken in this entire region. The other main languages are Asamese, Bangla and Punjabi which are fairly close to Hindi as they are all of Sanskrit origin. The region is known for classical Hindustani Music and Kathak dance. Ravindra Sangeet is popular in West Bengal and Bihu dance in Assam. So is Bhangra of Punjab.

- * Northern plains are the gift of the Himalayan rivers as they have formed these plains and still nourish them with their waters and silt they carry.
- * Northern plains are the granary of India producing rice, millets, wheat, pulses and oil seeds etc.
- * Northern Plains also produce industrial crops like jute, cotton, tea, sugarcane, oil seeds etc.
- * Northern Plains have well developed agrobased industries such as jute and cotton textiles, sugar and vegetable oils and dairying and leather.
- * Northern Plains are thickly populated and well served by means of transport and communication.
- * Northern Plains have been a cradle of Indian civilization.

INTEXT QUESTIONS 30.2

Fill in the blanks with appropriate words given in a list at the end :

- i) The Northern Plains of India consist of three river valleys from west to east :
(a) _____, (b) _____ and (c) _____
- ii) The Satlej Plain slopes very gently towards the _____ and its waters fall into the _____ sea.
- iii) The Ganga Plain slopes very gently towards the _____ and its waters fall into the _____ of _____.
- iv) The language spoken in the Satlej Plan is _____; and the _____ is spoken in the Brahmaputra valley.
- v) _____ is spoken in Tripura and West Bengal and Hindi in (a) _____
(b) _____ (c) _____ and (d) _____
- vi) _____ is the staple food crop of the eastern half of India and is largely grown in the _____ season.
- vii) _____ is the staple food crop of the western half of the Northern Plains and is in the _____ season.
- viii) While jute is grown mainly in _____, the cotton is grown in _____ and _____ on a large scale.

- ix) Rice and jute require _____ rainfall; while wheat _____ and _____ require moderate rainfall.
- x) The Northern Plains have four important agrobased industries: (a) _____ (b) _____ (c) _____ (d) _____

(Arabian, Assam, Assamese, Bay, Bengal, Bangla, Bihar, Brahmaputra, cotton, Cotton textiles, Delhi, East, Ganga, Haryana, Haryana, Haryana, Heavy, Jute-textiles, Kharif, Punjab, Punjabi, Rabi, Rice, Satlej, Sugar, Uttar Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Vegetable oil, West, West-Bengal, West-Bengal, Wheat, Wheat).

30.5. Life in the Peninsular Plateaus

(a) **Teaching-Learning Aids** : A map of peninsular India; A three dimensional relief model of India; Pictures of rocky uneven terrain, rounded or flat topped hills; the forests of teak. Mining activities; Fields of millet crops, sugarcane, cotton, groundnut; Hillforts; Masonry dams, picture of major cities like Gwalior, Bhopal, Indore, Jaipur, Udaipur, Pune, Colmbatore, Madurai, Picture of industries like Iron and steel plants of Jamshedpur, Bokaro, Rourkela and Bhilai. Bharat Heavy Electricals Bhopal, Picture of orchards of oranges, banana, grapes, and Assembly lines of trucks, automobiles, cotton textile mills. etc.

(b) Suggested Teaching Learning Methods and Techniques

A model and a relief map of peninsular India may be used to bring home rocky and most uneven nature the terrain. An imaginary visit to a village may be used to highlight very diverse, soil conditions; difficulty in irrigating fields, rainfed agriculture and sparse population. A picture of mines and mining activities may be used to point out mineral wealth, mining as an occupation and basic industries like iron and steel, metals and automobiles. In agrobased industries picture of cotton textile mills, handlooms etc may be used. Pictures of cities and places of interest are also useful.

(c) **Points to be Highlighted** : Rocky terrain with uneven depth and fertility of soils. However deep soils with irrigation give good returns e.g. sugarcane and orchards. Millets form the staple food crops. The cotton and groundnut are yet other rainfed crops. So also pulses. What soil denies is more than made up by Subsoil or mineral resources -iron ore, coal, manganese, bauxite, mica etc. The region has both agro-based and mineral based industries - cotton textiles, sugar, oil and key industries like iron and steel and automobiles. Population is not dense and is unevenly distributed. Region has diverse cultures and history of which people feel proud.

(d) Brief Outline of Contents

(i) **Relief and Drainage** of the Peninsular block of India is a collage of plateaus of different shapes and sizes forming a single continuous unit. It lies to the south of the Northern Plains. Bordering the Northern Plains are the plateaus of Malwa, Bundelkhand, Baghelkhand and Chhota Nagpur from west to east. In the west - northwest, they are flanked by the Aravallis and in the south by the Vindhya and their eastern extensions. To the south of the Narmada lies the Great Deccan Plateau. It is flanked by Satpuras in the north. In the west, the Western Ghats form

its edge and in the east the Eastern Ghats broken by rivers.

The rivers Chambal, Sind, Betwa, Ken, Son and Damodar flow into the Northern Plains before joining Yamuna, Ganga, Hooghly. The main rivers Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna and Kavery flow into the Bay of Bengal. Only Narmada and Tapi flow in the opposite direction i.e. westwards to fall into the Arabian Sea.

(ii) Terrain and Soils The plateaus are made up of old and hard rocks mainly granite in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. The state of Maharashtra parts of Gujarat are made of Deccan Traps or basalt made of lava flows. The parts of Madhya Pradesh are made of basalt and Vindhyan sand stone. These plateaus of central and southern India have cultivable soils mostly in patches or pockets. The depth and fertility of soil varies from field to field even in close proximity. The basalt has given rise generally to black soils and granite, by and large, has contributed to the formation of red soil. The cycle of dry and wet seasons has also contributed to the formation of soils. At higher altitudes and particularly in rainy areas lateritic soils are more common. Black soils where they are deep are generally more fertile. All the soils do well under irrigation and doses of manures and fertilisers.

The plateau region during summers is hot in day time and become cool by evening. Most of the region falls in the moderate to low rainfall. The western half falls under the rain shadow area. The hilly parts are covered with the monsoon forests where teak and sal are the common and useful species for timber. Wild life consists of gaur, wild buffaloes, deer and monkeys. In Karnataka, elephants are also found.

(iii) Agriculture is the main occupation of the region. Two types of farming are common. One is rainfed agriculture accounting for nearly three fourths of the land and the other is irrigated farming. While the former is used for growing millets-jowar-bajra and ragi, cotton, groundnut and pulses, the latter is put under cash crops like sugarcane, orchards and vegetables etc. For rainfed agriculture season kharif crops alone are important. In rabi in Malwa parts of northern Maharashtra Wheat is grown. The fruit crops of mango, banana, oranges, grapes and citrus fruits are important. Animal rearing and dairying is also now becoming important.

(iv) Mineral Wealth is the most special feature of the peninsular block. It more than compensates the lack of fertile soils. The important minerals are iron-ore, manganese, bauxite mica. Coal deposits have been preserved in river valleys of Damodar, Godavari, Poorna, Tapi and Wardha. Masonry dams help both in irrigation and generation of power. Industries here are both agro-based and mineral based. The former include cotton textiles, sugar and vegetable oil. The centers of textile industry are Nagpur, Gwalior, Indore, Sholapur, Bangalore and Hyderabad. Sugar industry is scattered. The mineral based industries are iron and steel with centres at Bhilai, Jamshedpur, Rourkela, Bokaro and Salem. The automobile industry is located at Jamshedpur, Pune, Aurangabad and Indore. There are also electrical and heavy electronic industries at Bangalore, Bhopal, Hyderabad and Pune. Thus the industries make handsome contribution to national economy.

(v) People and Culture : Population is generally moderate to dense. Villages are of big size and far apart. There are big urban centres in mining and industrial

belts. Hindi is spoken in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, southern U.P. and in Chotanagpur plateau along with its tribal dialects. The other languages are Marathi (Maharashtra), Kannada (Karnataka), Tamil (Tamil Nadu), Telugu (Andhra Pradesh) and Oriya (Orissa). The region has its classical music-Karnataka styles, and dances-Bharat Natyami Kuchipudi, Odissi; its folk dances include Lavani in Maharashtra and yakshgana in Karnataka. The region has thus its own cultural identity of which each region is very proud.

- * The peninsular plateaus are made up of old hard rocks covered with red, black and lateritic soils mostly shallow and found in patches of pockets only.
- * Region practises rainfed and irrigated farming. Cotton, millets, pulses, and groundnuts are mainly rainfed crops. Sugarcane and orchards require irrigation.
- * Peninsular plateau is rich in minerals-iron ore, bauxite, manganese, mica and coal.
- * Peninsular plateau has both agro-based-cotton textiles, sugar and vegetable oil and mineral-based viz. iron and steel, metals, automobiles, electrical and electronic goods industries.
- * Population is moderately dense and proud of its culture and past history.

INTEXT QUESTIONS 30.3

1. Make correct groups taking one from each column :

States	Capitals	languages	Art forms.
1 Maharashtra	A Bhubaneswar	i) Oriya	a) Kuchipudi
2 Karnataka	B Chennai	ii) Marathi	b) Odissi
3 Tamil Nadu	C Hyderabad	(iii) Telugu	c) Yakshagana
4 Andhra Pradesh	D Mumbai	(iv) Kannada	d) Bharat Natyan
5 Orissa	E Bangalore	(v) Tamil	(e) Lavani

2. Fill in the Blanks with appropriate words from the words given at the end :

- i) The western edge of the Deccan Plateau is marked by the _____.
- ii) The rivers Chambal, Sind, Betwa and Ken join the river _____ in Uttar Pradesh.
- iii) Damodar valley is known for its huge _____ reserves.
- iv) The _____ plateau has five major iron and steel plants of India.
- v) The three agrobased industries of the Southern Plateau are (a) _____
(b) _____ (c) _____.

(Chotanagpur, Coal, Cotton textiles, Sugar, Vegetable oil, Western Ghats, Yamuna)

30.6 life in Coastal Strips and Islands

(a) **Teaching-Learning Aids-** A model of the relief of India and a coloured relief map to point out a narrow and generally rocky and eroded plain flanked by seas on one hand and an edge of a plateau abruptly rising from the plain on the other. A picture of Gateway of India to associate its idea with every major part being a gateway of international contract of trade. Clay models of shore and coastline features e.g. beach, bar, estuary, lagoon, port and a harbour. Map or sketch showing a couple of ports and how they are connected by rails and roads with their hinterlands. Pictures of oil refineries, off shore and onshore oil drilling platforms and oil wells. A Pictures of Sagar Sammrat. Pictures of ships and vessels of different sizes. Pictures of corals, coconut plantations, rubber plantation, spices and fruit orchards. Pictures of fishing fleets-traditional and modern, forests of Andaman and Nicobar.

(b) **Teaching Learning Activities-** Undertaking an imaginary sea journey starting from Kandla and culminating at Calcutta to list major ports, their nature e.g. tidal or otherwise; nature of harbour-natural or man made, nature of port from manual to highly mechanised loading and unloading. How far they provide security during storms. Some idea of exports or imports of major ports.

A Visit to Mumbai port and the City- Spacious natural harbour. Location on Suez sea route. Two ports : old city port and new jawahar port at Nvava Shova to reduce excessive pressure on Mumbai port. Visiting Sagar Samrat off shore drilling Platform. Visit to two oil refineries located in Mumbai (Trombay). A story of Mumbai from a small fishing harbour and small seven islands to the largest metropolitan city, the bussiest sea port and an international airport and the commercial capital of India. The city's role in freedom struggle. Visiting a modern textile composite mill for spinning weaving. Pictures of wild life- elephants in Kerala. Bengal tiger of Sundarbans, wild ass of Kutchh, deer and varieties of fish, corals etc.

(c) **Points to be Highlighted-** The western coastal ship is narrow, rocky, rugged and highly eroded by a large number of small but fast flowing rivers. Eastern coast on the other hand is wide, less rugged and has alluvial deposits and dominating deltas. The west coasts has estuaries of Tapi and Narmada in the north and lagoon, backwaters along Malabar coasts. East coast has large deltas. Western ghats have very high and extremely steep ascarpments running parallel to the coast from Surat to Knyakumari. Eastern Ghats are less bold and discontinuous, broken by rivers. Rainfall on the west coasts is highest near karwar coast, and generally decreases both in amount and direction from south to north. Eastern coast particularly Tamil Nadu coast receives major part of rainfall from retreating monsoons. Agriculture is the dominant activity supplemented by fishing and forestry. Rice is the main crop both in kharif and rabi. Gujarat plain grow millets, groundnut and cotton mostly rainfed crops. Tobacco is grown in Andhra Pradesh. Fruits, coconuts, mangoes, jackfruit, cashewnuts more on west coast. Rubber is important cash crop. Discovery of off shore oil fields in Maharashtra and Gujarat and onshore in Gujarat. Oil refineries and international trade though major ports.

(d) Brief Outline of Contents

(i) Location and Extent- The peninsular plateaus which go on tapering towards the south are ribboned with narrow coastal strips both in the west and the east. The western coastal strip starts from Kutch and continues till Kanyakumari, a point where the waters of the Arabian Sea, the Bay of Bengal and the Indian ocean mingle together. Taking a sudden northward turn the eastern coastal strip continues till it merges in the Ganga-Brahmaputra Delta and the Sunderbans. It covers the states of Gujarat, Goa and Kerala too along the Western coast. The Union Territories of Daman and Diu also lie in this strip. The Lakshadweep Islands yet another Union Territory has also been grouped with this part. Then there are Konkan and Karwar coastal strips which form parts of Maharashtra and Karnataka respectively. Along the eastern coast lies the Union Territory of Pondicherry and the group of Andaman Nicobar Islands another Union Territory has also been tagged with it. This coastal strip also includes large parts of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal.

(ii) Terrain and Soils- The western coastal strip, barring the Gujarat coastal plains is narrow, rugged and highly eroded by hundreds of short but fast flowing rivers. The rocky terrain has only shallow pockets of soil in low lying areas. The coast line is marked by two large estuaries of Narmada and Tapi in the north and is somewhat indented. The coast line in Kerala is marked by lagoons and back waters. As against this, eastern coastal strip is wide and has over large parts deposits of alluvial soil making it far less rugged. The entire coastal strip is marked by the large fertile deltas of Kaveri in Tamil Nadu, Krishna and Godavari in Andhra Pradesh and Mahanadi in Orissa, not to speak of the world's largest and most popular delta of Ganga-Brahmaputra the major part of which lies in Bangladesh.

(iii) Climate is an important factor that influences life. The climate along the coast is equable and mild though very hot and humid. What really makes a difference from place to place is the amount of rainfall and the annual regime of rainfall. Along the western coast the Karwar coast in Karnataka receives the heaviest rainfall. However, by and large the amount of rainfall and the duration of rainy southwest monsoon season decreases from south to north. In Kerala it is nearly seven months whereas in Kutch, it is hardly a couple of months. The eastern coasts receive rainfall from winds flowing from the Bay of Bengal. The rain fall along the coast is rather uniformly distributed, although the Tamil Nadu coasts receive the major quota of their rainfall during the retreating monsoon season instead of the regular southwest monsoons.

Natural vegetation is also varied from tropical rain forests in Kerala to humid monsoon forests along the slopes of Western Ghat in Karnataka and Konkan region. Much of the forest cover has been removed by man and only (Kutch) hilly areas are left with a natural forest cover. Elephants, Royal Bengal tigers of Sunderbans and monkeys form the major species of wild life. There are wide variation of fish in island, coastal and deep sea fishing grounds.

(iv) Agriculture is the dominated economic activity. The Gujarat plain grows millets groundnut and cotton its major kharif and rained crops. Sugarcane is grown on irrigation waters. Elsewhere rice is a staple food crop and is grown particularly in deltas under irrigation even as a rabi crop. In fact in some parts

three rice crops a year is grown in close succession. The cash crops include rubber, spices, coconuts and cashewnuts in Kerala, and tobacco and sugarcane in Andhra Pradesh. Mangoes of different varieties are grown in most parts. The island coastal and deep sea fishing is now practised on a large scale. A handsome foreign exchange is earned through fish exports. Salt, iron ore and monazites are the major mineral resources of this regions.

(v) **Industries** in this region include cotton textiles, vegetable oil, sugar and leather. The centres of textile industry include Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Vadodra, Chennai and Calcutta. Ship Building yards are at Kochi and Visakhapatnam. There are several oil refineries based on import and newly found oil deposits. The major off shore oilfields lie near Mumbai with Bombay High as the largest deposits discovered so far. Oil is also found of the Combay (Khambhat) coasts. Onshore deposits are confined to Gujarat only. Where there is big oil refinery.

(vi) **The major ports** are the gateways of international trade. Ports export cotton, yarn, cotton fabrics and garments and coir goods small machine, tools and light engineering goods on a large scale. They also export certain agricultural commodities like tea, coffee, jute bags, leather goods, fish, salt etc. Among the imports are petroleum and petroleum products, chemical fertilisers, heavy machinery and electronic goods. The promotion of international trade depends upon the network of means of transport. The coastal strips have national highways and railway lines. Even the missing Konkan railway link is now in place and the metropolitan cities of Mumbai, Chennai and Calcutta have busy international airports which promote passenger transport and valuable cargo trade.

(vii) Account of **"People and Culture"** has partly been covered in earlier part of the lesson. Here we confine therefore only to Gujarat, Goa, Kerala and Pondicherry. Through Goa we have received consider Portuguese influence who brought to India not only Christianity but also crops of the new world such as potato, tomato, groundnut, green chilles etc. In fact credit of discovering all sea route goes to Vasco da Gama a Portuguese sea man. Through Pondicherry we have absorbed French influence. Gujarat has given us the Father of the Nation who successfully led the country to freedom fighting all his life against an imperial power through non violence. The state is known for its Garba dance, a history leading to the Indus Valley Civilization. Kerala is land of harmony where Hindus, Muslims and Christians live side by side. It has produced dances of Kathakali and Mohiniattam. Keralites are enterprising people who have migrated to almost every part of the world. Malayalam has very rich literatures.

(viii) **Lakshadweep** are a small group of coral islands off the coast of Kerala. They live on fish and coconut. Now they promote tourism by inviting people from the mainland to visit them. Coral islands are generally ring shaped. People follow Islam and speak Malayalam. Kavaratti is the capital city.

(ix) **Andaman Nicobar Islands** lie in the Bay of Bengal off the coast of Myanmar and not far from Indonesia. The island has a live volcano. It rains here very heavily and for several months. Thick rainy tropical forests cover these islands. Original people were tribals. Most of them still continue to live in their old tribal ways. Now people from many parts of India and refugees from Bangladesh have settled in big numbers. Timber is the main item of export. Rice is the staple food

crop grown here. Fishing is another important occupation. The island were used for detaining political prisoners by the Britishers. Port Blair is the capital. People speak several regional language of India.

- * Coastal strips have rice as its staple food crop, barring Gujarat where it is millets.
- * Coastal strips have the cash crops of spices, rubber, coconuts, fruits and tobacco (in Andhra Pradesh).
- * Coastal strips have provided a home to textile industrial centres like Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Chennai and Calcutta where jute is now manufactured on the largest scale; and coir industry in Kerala.
- * Coastal strips monopolise in coastal shipping, coastal and deep sea fishing, ship building off shore oil drilling and oil refining of domestic as well as imported crude oil. It alone reclaims salt from seawater especially in Kutchhh.
- * Coastal strips channelise country's international trade through their major ports duly backed by road and rail transport network.

INTEXT QUESTIONS 30.4

1. Fill in the blanks by appropriate words given at the end of the question :
 - i) The lakshadweep Islands are off the coast of _____ in the Arabian Sea.
 - ii) In the Bay of Bengal lie the Indian islands of _____ and _____; and their capital is _____.
 - iii) Agriculturally, _____ can be called the state of coconuts, spices, rubber and cashewnuts.
 - iv) The major ship building yards of India are located at _____ in Kerals and _____ in Andhra Pradesh.
 - v) While _____ form the staple food of Gujarat for the rest of the coastal region it is _____.
- (Andaman & Nicobar; Kerala; Kerala; Kochi; Millets; Port Blair, Rice and Visakhapatnam).

2. Make correct teams by taking one item from each column :

States	Languages	Major ports	Minerals/Metals
1 Andhra Pradesh	A Konkani	i) Kochi	a) Salt
2 Goa	B Malayalam	ii) Visakhapatnam	b) Monozite sands
3 Gujarat	C Telugau	iii) Marmagao	c) iron-ore
4 Kerals	D Gujarati	iv) kandla	d) iron and steel

WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT

In this lesson you have studied very briefly the geography of India focussing on human life in the form of major physical divisions. In the Mountains are north people work hard to earn a living under tiring conditions. They cultivate land in

the valleys, practice terraced farming along the hill slopes and plant orchards. This region makes its vital contribution to Indian economy through its forest wealth and immense water resources both for providing irrigation and hydroelectricity to the Northern Plains. The well developed tourist industry also contributes to national exchequer.

The Northern plains form a single entity although it consists of three river valleys. Its rich and fertile alluvial soils backed by fairly good rainfall and assured irrigation facilities have made it a granary of India. It is the most thickly populated part of the country, well served by modern means of transport. Its industrial crops support agro-based industries. The region is called the cradle of Indian civilization.

The peninsular plateaus possess both agricultural and mineral resources. As a result it has well developed agro-based and minerals based industries with a large number of manufacturing centres of textiles, sugar and iron and steel industry.

The coastal strips of India produce rice and millets as staple food crops. Its cash crops include groundnut and cotton in Gujarat and sugarcane, tobacco, rubber, coconuts etc in the other parts. The region monopolises in shipping, fishing, shipbuilding, drilling and refining of mineral oil and channelises the international trade of the whole country through its major ports of metropolitan Centre like Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai.

The Lesson not only outlines the contents but provides detailed guidelines on how to teach and what teaching learning aids need to be used to make the task lively and interesting for children. Even the points to be highlighted have been delineated.

TERMINAL QUESTIONS

1. Describe location, extent and physical layout of the Himalayas.
 2. Explain special features of farming and animal rearing in the mountainous region.
 3. How do you account for wide cultural diversity in the Himalayan mountain region?
 4. Discuss the scope of tourism in the Himalayan region.
 5. Comment briefly on the divide between the Satluj and the Ganga Basins.
 6. Suppose you are required to teach about the life of the people of Ganga Plain through an imaginary journey by boat down the river from Haridwar to Varanasi. What method would you adopt? State the steps in sequentially in this method of teaching.
 7. Which teaching aid would you like to use in teaching the comparative study of eastern and western coastal plains.
 8. Prepare a sample lesson plan on the life of people in the Peninsular Plateau. You may use the accompanying sample lesson plan (Appendix-2 page 71 to 76) for guidance.
 9. Prepare a sample test paper along with marking scheme on the climate of our country by taking the help of the accompanying sample test paper (Appendix - 3 page 77 to 79).
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CHECK YOUR ANSWERS

INTEXT QUESTIONS

30.1 (i) Himalaya; (ii) Mount everst; (iii) rain, snow; (iv) forest; medicinal; hydel; (v) Terraced; orchards; (vi) songs, dances; (vii) costumes.

2. Pictures of Costumes

30.2 i) satlej, Ganga, Brahmaputra; (ii) west, Arabian; (iii) east, Bay Bengal; (iv) Punjabi Assamese v) Bangla; Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, (vi) rice, kharif; (vii) wheat, rabi; (viii) West Bengal, Punjab Haryana; (ix) heavy, wheat cotton x) cotton textiles, jute textiles, sugar, vegetable oil.

30.3. (i) 1-D-ii-e; 2-E-iv-c; 3-B-v-d; 4-c-iii-a; 5-A-i)-b.

(2) i) Western ghats; (ii) Yamuna; (iii) coal; (iv) Chhotanagpur (v) Cotton textiles, sugar, vegetable oil.

30.4. (i) Kerala (ii) Andaman, Nicobar; Port Blair; (iii) Kerala (iv) Kochi' Visakhapatnam; (v) Millets rice.

(2) 1-c-ii-d; 2-A-iii-c; 3-D-iv-a; 4-B-i-b.

TERMINAL QUESTIONS

1. See 30.3 (d) para 2
2. See 30.3 (d) paras 4 and 5
3. See 30.3 (d) para 6
4. See 30.3 (d) para 7
5. See 30.4 (d) para 2
6. See 30.4 (c) and (d)
7. See 30.6 (a)
8. See Appendix -2, page 71 to 76
9. See Appendix -3, page 77 to 79.