



ESP- IV (HSMC402)

Consolidated Notes



Department of General Studies
IEM- UEM Group

HISTORY

Foundation of Delhi Sultanate

- The Mamluks, after making their prominence in Persia, conquered India in A.D. 1100 and defeated the Rajput kings by AD 1192.
- Mohammad Ghori occupied Delhi by the end of the 12th century and laid the foundation of Delhi Sultanate in India.
- The formation of Delhi Sultanate was possible as:
 - There was no powerful central authority in India.
 - Lack of unity among the Hindus
 - Rajput's lacked unity and a strong military system. They were constantly fighting with each other.
 - Religious zeal among the Muslims.
- The foundation of Muslim empire was laid in India which was further strengthened by Qutub-ud-din and Iltutmish. The empire of Ghori was divided into many states after 1206.
- In Ghori his nephew, in Ghazni Taj al-din-Yeeduz, in Sindh Nasir-ud-din Qabacha and in India, Qutub-ud-din Aibak became his successors.
- Qutub-ud-din Aibak started and established a new dynasty in India which came to be known as SLAVE Dynasty. He made Lahore his Capital.

THE BACKGROUND OF DELHI SULTANATE

- **First Muslim Invasion** - Mohamamd Bin Qasim's invasion (712 AD)
- **First Turk Invasion** - Mahmud Ghaznavi's invasion (998-1030 AD).
- **Second Turk invasion** - Mohammad Ghori's invasion (1175-1206) AD

The Slave Dynasty Slave Dynasty

Timeline of Ruler Reign

1. Qutbu-ud-din-Aibak (1192–1210)
 2. Aram Shah (1210–1211)
 3. Shams-ud-din-Iltutmish (1211–1236)
 4. Razia Sultana (1236–1240)
 5. Nasiruddin Mahmud (1246–1266)
 6. Ghiyasuddin Balban (1266–1286)
- The Slave Dynasty was the 1st dynasty of the Sultanate. It is also called as Mamluk Dynasty, Ilbari Dynasty.

- The dynasty was known as 'Slave' as most of them were either slaves or the sons of slaves who had become Sultan.

Qutub-ud-din Aibak

- Qutub-ud-din Aibak belonged to a Turk tribe called as 'Aibak'.
- In his early life, he was taken as a prisoner and was first purchased by a qazi of Nishapur. He was educated in Islamic theory and was a seasoned swordsman.
- Mohammad Ghori was impressed by his courage and purchased him. Due to his calibre he was raised to the status of 'Amir-i-Akhur' (master of royal stable)
- Aibak crushed the rebellion at Ajmer in 1195, conquered Gwalior in 1196 and in 1197, he conquered Gujarat and defeated the ruler Bheemdev.
- He was enthroned in Lahore in 1206. He is regarded as the 1st Sultan of Delhi though he never assumed the title of 'Sultan'.
- He made his capital at Lahore.
- He concluded powerful matrimonial alliances with the nobles of Mohammad Ghori.
 - He married the daughter of Subedar of Ghazni, Tajuddin Yaldoz.
 - He married his daughter with the ruler of Sind, Nasir-uddin Qabacha.
 - He married his daughter to Iltutmish who later became his successor.
- He then subjugated diplomatically Mohammad-bin Bakhtiyar Khilji.
- Aibak was a great patron of learning and patronized writers like:
 - Hasanul-Nizami who wrote Taj-ul-massiri
 - Fakr-ud-din wrote Tarikh-i-Mobarak Shahi.
- He laid the foundation of Qutab Minar and named it after the Sufi Saint Qutab-ud-din Bakhtiyar Kaki.
- He constructed 2 mosques:
 - Quwwat-ul-Islam
 - Adhai din ka darwaza
- In 1210, while playing polo, he fell from his horse and died.

Razia Sultan (1236-40)

- After the death of Rukn-ud-din, Razia was made the Sultan. She was the first Muslim ruler of India.
- After ascending the throne, she crushed the rebellion in Multan, Lahore and Hansi.
- She was also successful in defeating her main opponent and wazir Mohammad Junaidi in a battle.

- She conducted military operations and administration first like a man. She left the feminine dress and ornaments and dressed up like a king.
- According to Minhaj-ul-Siraj, she was a great, wise, kind ruler, a savior of her people and a great commander.
- She developed soft relations with an Abyssinian called Jamal-ud-din Yakut who was the most favoured noble from among the 40 slaves.
- Rebellion broke out in many parts of the empire:
 - Subedars of Lahore revolted but were suppressed by Razia successfully.
 - A rebellion broke out in Bhatinda. As she was on her way to suppress it, she was imprisoned by Altunia and Yakut was killed. She married Altunia.
- The nobles at court, meanwhile, enthroned Bahram Shah. Razia marched towards Delhi to capture back her throne but was defeated and killed at Kaithal on 13 October, 1240.

Nasir-ud-din Mahmud Shah (1246-66)

- He was put on throne by Turkan-i-Chahalgani.
- He believed in the supremacy of God and was called “Darvesh” king in Indian history.
- He lived like a commoner and earned his livelihood by writing the couplets of Quran.
- He was not suitable for the political atmosphere as a hard and mighty ruler was needed to control the Chahalgani and the Mongol invasions.
- Nasir-ud-din had an able prime minister called Ghiyas-uddin Balban, his father-in-law.
- Balban crushed all the rebellions with success and maintained peace and order in the empire. He also checked the Mongol invasion in the frontiers.
- He served as wazir except for a year when he was deposed by Nasir-ud-din and Raihan was made as wazir in his place.
- In the words of Minhaj-ul-Siraj, “The condition of Delhi was very bad and I did not come out of my house for 6 months for prayers. Balban was a real man to consolidate the situation and bring peace in the empire”.
- After the death of Nasir-ud-din, Balban was enthroned as Sultan.

Ghiyas-ud-din Balban (1266-87)

- Originally he belonged to the Ilbari tribe but was taken away by Mongols and sold to a merchant. Later Iltutmish purchased him and appointed him as a ‘bhiti’.
- Later due to his abilities, he was raised to the status of a noble and also included in the core of 40 slaves.

- He was a dedicated officer under Razia but later supported Bahram Khan and rebelled against her.
- He faced the Mongol invasion during the reign of Masud in 1245 and due to his success he was given the title of “Ulugh Khan”.
- He was appointed as wazir when Nasir-ud-din ascended the throne and remained on this for 20 years.
- He suppressed the rebellion of Khokkars and revolt of Rajputs at Ranthambhor, Gwalior Chanderi and Malwa.
- He ascended the throne in 1266 and was again successful in crushing the rebellion by the Mewati who used to rebel every now and then.
- He was also successful in curbing the problem of the dacoits in the Doab region.
- The next problem was of the core of 40 slaves who were highly ambitious, resourceful and ambitious group who had been responsible in downgrading the office of the Sultan. Balban snatched away their rights and titles and cruelly suppressed the group. He adopted “Blood & Iron” Policy.
- In 1279, he suppressed the revolt in Bengal which was a constant source of trouble because of long distance and lack of communication facilities.
- He put forward his divine theory of Kingship.
- He separated the army from the rest of the civil department. He established a separate military department known as “Diwan-i-Arz” which looked after the forts and other defences. He also deployed the royal forces at strategic places.
- He set-up a network of news writers and spies all over the empire who reported to him all about the developments in their area.
- Amir Khusrau (Tuti-i-Hind) adorned his court.

Balban's theory of kingship

- This theory was borrowed from Persia.
- Balban projected monarchy as a semidivine institution and declared himself to be the successor of “Afrasiab”, the Iranian warrior.
- According to him - Kingship was a gift of God - Niyabat-i-Khudai.
- He adopted the title of Jil-i-Ilahi (Shadow of God on Earth)
- He introduced Sijda (prostration) and Paibos (kissing of feet)
- ‘Navroz’ or Iranian new year was celebrated in his court
- He excluded Indian Muslims from all the important and powerful positions which was reserved for the Ilbari Turks of Noble birth.
- He followed the principle of “king knows no kinship”. So all personal and family ties were overlooked while performing his duties.

The Khilji Dynasty (1290-1320)

Khilji Dynasty Timeline

- Jalal-ud-din Firuz Khilji 1290–1296
 - Alauddin Khilji 1296–1316
 - Qutb-ud-din Mubarak Shah 1316–1320
- The replacement of Ilbari Dynasty by the Khilji Dynasty is known as Khilji Revolution.
 - They were originally Turkish but traditionally became Afghan.

Jalal-Ud-Din Khilji (A.D. 1290-96)

- At the age of 70 in 1290 A.D., Jalal-ud-din Khilji founded the Khilji Dynasty.
- There was anarchy and instability in the Sultanate under Kaiqubad.
- Kaiqubad was paralysed and helpless in the Khilokhari palace. He was killed and his son Kaimur was put aside on 13 June 1290.
- At this juncture Jalal-ud-din Khilji became the Sultan.
- He ruled for 6 years but did not dare to sit on the throne of Balban whom he had served all his life as a humble servant.
- According to Barani, “He became a beloved among the masses because of his good qualities, justice loving temperament and dedication.
- Jalal-ud-din had to face the rebellion of nephew of Balban, Malik Chhajju and the Subedar of Kara. He crushed the rebellion of Chhajju but pardoned him.
- Due to his weak and merciful policies, the conspiracy began in the court.
- During his time, the Mongols under the command of Abdullah (grandson of Halaqu) attacked Punjab and reached near Sunam. Jalal-ud-din defeated them. Ullugh Khan (a descendent of Chenghiz Khan) accepted Islam, married the daughter of Sultan and started residing in Delhi.
- In 1290, he attacked Ranthambhor but was unsuccessful.
- He believed in the principle that the state should be governed on the willing support of the people/subjects. As most of the population was Hindu, hence the state could not be purely Islamic.
- In 1294, Ala-ud-din Khailji (nephew of Jalal-ud-din) invaded Rama Chandra Dev, the ruler of Devgiri. Rama Chandra was defeated and Ala-ud-din returned with an immense booty. Jalal-ud-din himself went to Kara to welcome him but he was treachously murdered by Ala-uddin who enthroned himself in 1296.

Ala-Ud-Din Khilji (1296-1316)

- His original name was Ali Gurchap and he was the nephew of Jalal-ud-din Khilji, who later married his daughter and was given the Iqta of Kara.

- He ascended the throne of Delhi after treachously murdering Jalal-ud-din Khilji.
- He was unpopular among his subjects but he soon won over his nobles by lavish use of gold.
- After consolidating his position and firmly establishing himself at Delhi, he undertook various conquests.
- Because of his conquests, he adorned the title of “Second Alexander” (Sikander-i-Saini) in the Khutba and coins.

Administrative reforms of Ala-ud-din

After consolidating his position, he started the task of administering the empire with an iron-hand. He established a strict system of administration.

Military Reforms

- To avoid the kind of fake system of registration he devised the muster roll for identifying the soldiers personally called ‘chehra’.
- To ensure the best kinds of horses by the soldiers the horses were branded (dagh).
- He personally recruited the army and introduced the first permanent standing army of medieval India.
- He started paying the salaries in cash and there by abolished the Iqtas of royal troopers.

Market Control and Economic Reforms:

- Ala-ud-din’s aim was to maintain a large standing army at a minimum cost so he devised the market control policy.
- Through this policy, he sought to fix the cost of all commodities from food grains and other articles.
- The market control department was called Diwan-i-Riyasat and the chief officer was Sahana-i-Mandi.
- Severe punishments were given to those who violated these measures.
- This market regulation was applicable to Delhi and the neighbouring region.
- All grants and pension were revoked and all lands that were held by people as gifts, pensions, endowments from the state were confiscated.
- He organised an efficient spy system to report all important occurrence to the Sultan.
- He insisted that in the Doab, land revenue would be assessed in the basis of the measurement of the land under cultivation.
- All lands given as assignments were reclaimed as khalisa land (crown lands).

- Land tax was raised to 50% of the produce and other taxes were also collected with great harshness.
- Ala-ud-din soon attacked the privileged position of the hereditary revenue officers like 'khuts', 'chaudharies' and 'muquaddams'.
- Ala-ud-din abolished their privileges and snatched away their rights to collect revenue. They were asked to pay equally as the other tax payers.
- He imposed two customary taxes:
 - Grazing (charai)
 - House tax (Ghari)
- He set up three markets in Delhi:
 - Food grain market
 - Costly item market
- Horses, slave and cattle market
- 2 important offices during his time:
 - Malik Kabool - appointed as Sahana-i-mandi
 - Najir Yakub - appointed as Diwan-i-Riyasat
- All goods for sale were brought to an open market called the Sarai-Adl.
- The post of special officer called 'Mustakharaj' was created for the collection of Revenue. Major Contributions of Ala-ud-din
- Ala-ud-din was the 1st muslim ruler who disregarded the position of Ulema (guardians of Islam)
- He also gave patronage to many artists and learned men - Amir Khusrau flourished in his court.
- He built the following:
 - 'Alai Darwaja' beside the Jamat-i-Khan Masjid at the Dargah of Nizamuddin Auliya.
 - The 'Siri fort' the 2nd city of Delhi.
 - The 'Hazrat Sutan' (the palace of 1000 pillars)
 - Built a magnificent tank Hauz-i-Khas or Hauz-i-Ilahi.

The Tughlaq Dynasty (1320-1414)

Tughlaq Dynasty timeline

- Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq 1321-1325
- Mohammad bin Tughlaq 1325-1351
- Firoz Shah Tughlaq 1351-1388
- Ghiyas-ud-din Tughluq II 1388-1389
- Nusrat Shah 1394-1399
- Nasiruddin Mahmud Shah 1399-1413

- According to Ibn Batuta, Tughlaq belongs to the 'Qurauna' tribe of the Turks who lived in the mountainous region lying between Turkistan and Sind.
- Firishta tells us that father of Ghazi Malik was a Turkish slave of Balban whose personal name was 'Qutluq' which later came to modified into 'Tughlaq'.

Ghiyas-Ud-Din Tughlaq (A.D. 1320-1325)

- After becoming the Sultan, Ghiyas-ud-din attempted to improve administration and economic condition as the administration was in shackles and the royal treasury was facing depletion:
 - He inspected the jagirs and cancelled the illegal grants.
 - He directed subedars in provinces and directed them not to torture the peasants.
 - He fixed the land revenue to 1/10th of the produce.
 - He was the 1st ruler who ordered to dig canals, plant the gardens and built forts to safe guard the peasants during the war time.
 - He organized the postal system for communication.
 - The practice of measuring and survey of the land was abandoned. The area under cultivation increased and the condition of the farmers improved.
- He also brought about a change in the military system.
 - He insisted on paying the army better to improve efficiency.
 - He increased the strength of the army.
- On returning from Bengal, he died in 1325 due to the collapse of a wooden pavilion.
- Abul Fazl, Nizamuddin Ahmad and Badayuni are of the opinion that the death was due to the conspiracy hatched by his son Jauna Khan.
- He built the strong fort called as Tughlaqabad near Delhi. It was the 3rd city of Delhi.

Mohammad-Bin-Tughlaq (A.D. 1325-51)

Main sources to study the period

- Scholar Zia-ud-din Barani
 - Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi
 - Futuhat-i-Firoz Shahi
 - Manshat-i-Mahru
 - Tughlaqnama
 - Ibn-Batnta: He was appointed as chief qazi. In 1342 Mohammad-bin-Tughlaq appointed him as his ambassador to China.

- After 3 days of Ghiyas-ud-din's death, Jauna Khan ascended the throne of Delhi in 1324 and declared himself as the Sultan Mohammad-bin-Tughlaq in 1325.
- He received the title of Ulugh Khan from Ghiyas-uddin for his meritorious work and his commitment to the state.
- He introduced many reforms for which he had become particularly debatable. His major Reforms

1. Transfer of Capital (A.D. 1326-27): Transfer of capital from Delhi to Deogiri

Reason

- a. It had been a base for Turkish expansion in South India which he named as Daulatabad.
- b. Wanted to make Deogiri as his 2nd capital in order to control South India better.

Result

After a couple of years, he decided to abandon Daulatabad mainly because most parts of Southern India freed themselves from his rule.

2. Introduction of Token currency (A.D. 1329-30)

- Mohammad Tughlaq decided to introduce bronze coins, which were to have the same value as the silver ones.

Reason

He was inspired by a similar system prevailing in Iran and China.

Result

- a. There was a large scale forgery of coins which was beyond the control of Mohammad Tughlaq.
- b. The new coins began to be greatly de-valued in markets.
- c. The ruler decided to withdraw the token currency. He promised to exchange silver piece for bronze coins.

3. Proposed Khurasan Expedition (A.D. 1332-33)

Mohammad Tughlaq decided to conquer Khurasan and mobilized a huge army for the purpose.

Reason

- a. He was encouraged to take this expedition by the Khurasani nobles who had taken shelter in his court.
- b. There was an instability in Khurasan on account of the unpopular rule of Abu Said

Result

The project was abandoned as an unrealistic scheme.

4. Qarachil Expedition (1333-34)

This expedition was launched in the Kumaon hills of Himalayas.

Reason

- a. To counter Chinese excursion
- b. Directed against some refractory tribes in Kumaon Garhwal region in order to bring them under Delhi Sultanate.

Result:

- a. The 1st attack was a success but with the onset of rainy season invaders suffered terribly.

5. Taxation in DOAB (1333-34)

- Increased the rate of taxation.
- Revived and created some additional abwabs or cesses.
- Increase was twenty fold to which 'Ghari' and 'Charahi' was also added.

Reason

To accumulate more finances.

Result

- a. New department of agriculture called Diwan 'i-Kohi' was created to bring more land under cultivation.
- b. Post of 'Wali-ul-Kharaj' was created for collection of revenue.
- c. The entire region was in grip of famine hence was resisted by the peasants who either abandoned the land or resorted to robbery.
- d. It also led to extension revolts which was suppressed by the Sultan.

Firoz Shah Tughlaq (1351-88)

After Mohammad Bin Tughlaq's death the situation in Thatta was very fluid. Hence the nobles requested Firoz Shah Tughlaq to occupy the throne which he readily accepted. He ascended the throne on 23 March, 1351 and became the Sultan of Delhi.

Various reforms carried out by Firoz Shah Tughlaq:

- He proclaimed that whenever a noble died, his son would take his position including his Iqta. If he had no son, then his son-in-law would acquire the privileges and in his absence, his slave.
- Principle of heredity was followed in army.
- The soldiers were not paid in cash but by assignments on the land revenue of villages known as 'Wajah'.
- He tried to ban practices which were considered as NonIslamic by the orthodox theologians.

- He prohibited the practice of muslim women going out to worship at the graves of saints.
- He made Jaziya a separate tax and even refused to exempt the Brahmins from payment of Jaziya since this was not provided for in Shariat.
- He imposed a land tax known as 'Haq-i-Shurb'.

Firoz Shah Tughlaq: A great Builder

- He planned a new city of Jaunpur at the banks of river Gomati, in the memory of Mohammad-bin-Tughlaq.
- He also built the city of Fatehabad, Hisar Jaunpur and Firozabad (the favourite city of firoz known Kotla Firoz Shah-the 5th city of Delhi)
- During his Bengal Campaign, he renamed Ikdala as Azadpur and Pandua as Firozabad.
- The 2 pillars of Ashoka (one from Topra and other from Meerut) were brought to Delhi. • He created a department of charity called Diwan-i-Khairat.
- He established a hospital in Delhi known as 'Dar-ul-Shifa.
- A new department for slaves was established called as 'Diwan-i-Bandagan'.

Sayyid Dynasty (A.D. 1414-50)

Khizr Khan (A.D. 1414-21)

- Founded the Sayyid Dynasty.
- Ruled as a deputy of Timur's son and successor, Shah Rukh.
- The empire was shrunken to Delhi and adjoining areas which were frequently challenged by the Hindu zamindars of Kannauj, Etawah, Katehar and Kampila.
- He died in A.D. 1421.

Mubarak Shah (A.D. 1421-34)

- He got khutba issued in his name and also issued his own coins.
- He subdued the rebellions of Bhatinda and Doab and also a revolt by Khokhan chief Jasrat.
- He supervised the construction of a newly planned town called Mubarakabad.
- He patronized Yahiya Bin Ahmed Sirhindi, author of Tarikhi-Mubarak Shahi.

Mohammad Shah (A.D. 1434-35)

- An incapable ruler.

- Real authority extended to mere 40 miles his capital. Ala-ud-din Alam Shah (A.D. 1445-50)
- He had established the residence at Badaun.
- He was the weakest ruler.
- He was deposed by Bahlul Lodhi thus bringing an end to the Sayyid Dynasty in A.D. 1451.

Lodhi Dynasty (A.D. 1451-1526)

Lodhi Dynline

- Bahlol Lodi 1451–1489
- Sikander Lodi 1489–1517
- Ibrahim Lodi 1517–1526

Bahlol Lodhi (1451-89)

- Founder of Lodhi Dynasty.
- Served as Subedar of Lahori and Sirhind during the reign of Mohammad Shah.
- Conquered territories around Delhi to restore the greatness of the Capital.
- Fought against Mahmud Shah Sharqi of Jaunpur in 1494 and was succeeded by his son Sultan Sikandar Lodhi.

Sikander Lodhi

- Original name was Nizam Shah but adored the titled of Sultan Sikandar Lodhi.
- Conquered Bihar and concluded a friendly treaty with Alaud-din Hussain Shah of Bengal.
- He appointed Dariya Khan as the Governor of Bengal.
- He conquered Dholpul and Chanderi.
- His political and economic reforms:
 - He set up an efficient espionage system.
 - He suppressed the power of the jagirdars.
 - He also kept an eye on the working of nobles. Strict vigilance was maintained.
 - He relaxed the restrictions on trade thereby promoting the prosperity of the people.
 - He introduced Gaz-i-sikandara of 39 digits or 32 inches for measuring the agricultural land.
 - He also introduced the auditing of accounts. – Transferred capital from Delhi to Agra (city founded by him)
- He was a staunch Sunni and a Muslim fanatic.

- Debarred women from visiting the graves of saints or be a part of any religious procession.
- Levied Jaziya and pilgrim's tax on Hindus.
- Wrote poem in Persian under the name of 'Gulrukhi'.

Ibrahim Lodhi (A.D. 1517-26)

- After the death of Ibrahim Lodhi, he was simultaneously succeeded by this 2 sons:
 - Ibrahim on the throne of Agra.
 - Jalal on the throne of Jaunpur.
- Jalal was killed by Ibrahim who then became the Sultan of Delhi.
- Many revolts erupted during his period and their repression made him very unpopular amongst the nobles.
- Bihar declared its independence under Dariya Khan Lohani but he was repressed mercilessly by Ibrahim Lodhi.
- The unsympathetic treatment meted out to Dilawar Khan, the Governor of Lahore, made him unpopular and the nobles turned against him.
 - To improve muslim education, he called Shaikh Abdulla and Shaikh Azizullah of Tulumba.
 - He translated an ayurvedic book himself called as "Farhand-i-Sikandari".
 - During his time, the text of Sanskrit- "Lazzat-eSikandari" was composed.
- Finally enmity erupted between him and Daulat Khan Lodhi, the Governor of Punjab. Hence forth Daulat Khan invited Babur, the ruler of Kabul to invade India.
- The 1st battle of Panipat took place in 1526 in which Ibrahim Lodhi was killed. Infact he was the 1st Sultan to die in a battle field.
- With the end of the Delhi Sultanate there was a rise of a new dynasty in the history of history of India—the Mughal Dynasty.

Development of Music

- Ala-ud-din Khilji patronised musician such as Amir Khusrau and Gopal Nayak and adorned them with the tittle "Nayak".
- Musical instruments such as Rabab and Sarangi were brought by the Turks.
- Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq had banned music but it was encouraged by Mohammad-Bin-Tughlaq and Firoz Shah Tughlaq.
- During Firoz Shah's coronation, a 21 days musical ceremony was conducted.
- During Firoz Shah's rule, "Ragadarpan" (Indian classic work on music) was translated into persian.

- The Sufis too popularised music which led to the development of Qawalis, Khayals etc.
- 1st book on music written by Muslim "Ghunghat ki Munru".
- Musician patronised by Mohammad-Bin-Tughlaq: Badrai-Chacha.

Bhakti and Sufi Movement in Medieval India

The medieval period saw the rise and growth of the Sufi and Bhakti movement in India. These movements brought a new form of religious expression amongst people. The Sufis were mystics who emphasised on an egalitarian society based on universal love. The Bhakti saints transformed Hinduism by introducing Bhakti as the means to attain God. They considered all human beings as equal irrespective of caste, creed or religion.

Bhakti Movement

Development in South India

- The development of Bhakti movement took place in Tamil Nadu between 7th and 12th CE.
- It was reflected in the emotional poems of the Nayanars (devotees of Shiva) and Alvars (devotees of Vishnu).
- These saints looked upon religion not as a cold formal worship but as a loving bond based upon love between the worshipped and worshipper.

Features

- Discarded rituals and sacrifices
- The emphasized purity of heart and mind, humanism and devotion
- Monotheistic in nature
- God has either Saguna or Nirguna form
- An egalitarian movement, they denounced casteism
- These saints preached in local languages
- They rejected the austerities preached by Jainism and Buddhism. These religions saw a decline in their growth due to Bhakti movement

Social reforms:

- Disregarded caste system
- Attacked institutionalized religion, Brahminical dominance, idol worship, methods of elaborate rituals etc
- Opposed Sati and female infanticide
- Women were encouraged to join Kirtans

- They aimed at bridging the gulf between Hindus and Muslims

Philosophical schools

<u>Philosophy</u>	<u>Founder</u>
Vishishtadvaita	Ramanuja
Dvaitadvaita / Bhedabhed	Nimbarka
Dvaita	Madhava
Shudadvaita	Vishnu swami
Advaita (non-dualism)	Sankaracharya

Significant Facts

- Appar, Sambandar, Sundaramurti, and Manikkavasagar were prominent Nayanars. The hymns of the first three are mentioned in Thiruvasagam was written by Manikkavasagar.
- Tirumurais is the collection of works of Nayanars which is called as the fifth Veda.
- Andal was a women Alvar saint. There were 12 Alvars and 63 Nayanars. Periyapuram by Shekkihazhar traces the life history of Nayanars
- Divya Prabhandam was the collection of hymns by Alvars

Development of Bhakti movement in North India

- The saints wrote in local languages, Tamil and Telugu and were, therefore, able to reach out to many people. They also translated Sanskrit works in local languages. Few saints are
 1. Jnanadeva – Marathi
 2. Kabirdas, Surdas, Tulsi das – Hindi
 3. Shankaradeva - Assamese
 4. Chaitanya and Chandidas - Bengali
- Sanskrit, which was prevalent in the north, was given a new form as the movement moved to North. Bhagavata Purana was a significant work in 9th century and an important component of Bhakti movement
- Kabir, Namdev and Guru Nanak had preached devotion to a Nirankar form of god. The followers of Guru Nanak identify themselves as Sikhs.

The Vaishnavite movement

- Devotion on Sakar form of god. Rama and Krishna were seen as avatars of Lord Vishnu. The main exponents were Surdas, Mirabai, Tulsidas and Chaitanya who espoused the path of salvation through the medium of Poetry, songs, dance, and kirtans.
- Sursagar by Surdas, Ramacharitmanas by Tulsidas were important works during this period.

Bhakti Saints

1. Ramananda – first great saint in North India
2. Kabir – the disciple of Ramananda, Nirguna saint, sought Hindu-Muslim unity, his followers are called Kabir Panthis
3. Guru Nanak – founder of Sikhism, social reformer and Nirguna saint
4. Chaitanya – Krishna bhakti cult and founder of Gaudiya or Bengal Vaishnavism
5. Purandara das – laid the foundations for modern Carnatic music
6. Vallabhacharya – propounded the principle of Pushti Marg

Bhakti saints of Maharastra Dharma

1. Jnanadeva – founder of Bhakti movement in Maharashtra; bhavarthadipka – Marathi commentary of Bhagavad Gita
2. Namadeva – founder of the Vithoba or Vithal cult which was known as Varkari sect
3. Eknath – Wrote Bhavartha Ramayana – commentary on Ramayana
4. Tukaram – Wrote devotional poetry known as Abhangas
5. Ramdas – Dasabodha – Compilation of his writings and sermons

Sufi Movement

The origins of Sufi movement can be traced to Abu Hamid al-Ghazali (1058-1111 AD) who belonged to the Ashari school which reconciled orthodoxy with mysticism and led a sufi life. His influence led to the setup of Madrasas (schools) and Ulemas (scholars).

Sufis

- The Sufis were mystics
- They opposed the degeneration of religion, vulgar display of wealth, orthodoxy etc.
- They emphasized free thoughts and liberal ideas
- They were against formal worship, rigidity, and fanaticism in religion

- They practiced meditation. They interpreted religion as 'love of god' and service to humanity. Sufis absorbed various ideas and practices from Hinduism, Christianity, Buddhism etc.
- They worked towards Hindu-Muslim unity and cultural synthesis
- The Sufis were divided into different Silsilahs (orders) with each silsilah having its own Pir (guide) called Khwaja or Sheikh. The Pir and his disciples lived in a Khanqah (hospice). A Pir nominated a successor or Wali from his disciples to carry on his work. The Sufis organized Samas (a recital of holy songs) to arouse mystical ecstasy

Sufism in India

- The Sufis came to India via Afghanistan. In the beginning, the main centers were Punjab and Multan which later spread to Kashmir, Bihar, Bengal, and Deccan.

Abu Fazl in Ain-i-Akbari speaks of fourteen silsilahs. They were divided into

1. Ba-shara: Orders which followed the Shariat and its directives such as Namaz and Roza. Chief of them are Chishti, Suhrawadi, Firdwasi, Qadiri and Naqshbandi
2. Be-shara: They were not bound by Shariat. The Qalandars belonged to this group

Silsilahs

The Chishti Silsilah:

Founded by Khwaja Moinuddin Chisti who made Ajmer as the center of learning. His disciples were Sheik Hamiduddin and Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki. Baba Farid, the disciple of Sheikh Nizamuddin Auliya made Delhi as an important center. Sheik Nasiruddin Mahmud, famously called Nasiruddin Chirag-i-Dilli was also the famous Chishti saint

The Suhrawadi Silsilah:

Founded by Sheik Shihabuddin Suhrawadi, it was established by Sheik Bahauddin Zakariya in India. He set up Khanaqa at Multan and received the title Shaikhul Islam.

Importance of Sufi movement

- The Sufis believed in the concept of Wahdat-ul-Wajud (Unity of Being)
- The hatha-yoga treatise Amrita Kunda was translated into Arabic and Persian.
- The Sufi saints maintained close contact with the common people
- The Sufi saints were poets who chose to write in local languages. Amir khusrau wrote in Hindi and developed a new style of sabaq-i-hindi.

- The liberal views of Sufis influenced the Din-i-Illahi of Akbar
 - Thus, we see that Sufi and Bhakti movements created a new spirit in the religious life and took on social reforms in creating an egalitarian society. They worked for the poor and downtrodden and believed in the personal devotion as a tool to experience god.
-

INDIAN POLITY

Central and State Legislature

Indian Parliament is bicameral in nature i.e. that it has two houses. Lok Sabha is one of those two houses. The other house is the Rajya Sabha.

Composition of Lok Sabha	
Maximum Strength – 552	530 represent the States
	20 are the representatives of Union Territories
	2 are nominated by the President from Anglo-Indian Community
Current Strength – 545	530 represent States
	13 represent Union Territories
	2 are nominated from the President from Anglo-Indian Community

Lok Sabha Elections

The members of Parliament (MPs) are elected/appointed from states, union territories or are appointed from a field of particular expertise. The elections to Lok Sabha occur every 5 years in the name of general elections. The Constitution of India has adopted **universal adult franchise** as a basis of elections to the Lok Sabha and the state legislative assemblies.

Representation of States in Lok Sabha:

- Members are directly elected by the people from the territorial constituencies in the states
- Election Principle used – Universal Adult Franchise
- Eligibility to Vote: Any Indian Citizen of/above 18 years of age

Note: Voting age was reduced from 21 to 18 years by the 61st Constitutional Amendment Act, 1988.

Representation of Union Territories in Lok Sabha:

- Parliament is empowered to choose the members from the UTs in any manner as it desires
- Election Principle used – **Direct Election**

Note: Union Territories (Direct Election to the House of the People) Act, 1965, has been enacted by which the members of Lok Sabha from the union territories are chosen by direct election.

Representation of Nominated Members in Lok Sabha:

President nominates 2 members from Anglo-Indian Community if they are not adequately represented.

Note: The provision to nominate Anglo-Indians was extended till 2020 by 95th Amendment Act, 2009.

Who is Lok Sabha Speaker?

The speaker of Lok Sabha is a member who elected from amongst the members of the house. He chairs the house and no proceedings in the house take place in his absence.

Facts about Lok Sabha Speaker for UPSC:

- 1st Lok Sabha Speaker – Ganesh Vasudev Mavalankar (1952-1956) (died in the office)
 - Ananthasayanam Ayyanagar was elected as Lok Sabha Speaker in 1956 who worked till 1957
- After 16th Lok Sabha elections, Ms Sumitra Mahajan was elected as the Lok Sabha speaker
- Following 17th Lok Sabha elections (2019 General Elections), Om Birla is the speaker of Lok Sabha.

Which is the largest constituency (area-wise)?	Ladakh (173266.37 sq.km)
Which is the smallest constituency (area-wise)?	Chandni Chowk (10.59 sq.km)
Which is the largest constituency (electors-wise)	Malkajgiri (29,53,915)

Which is the smallest constituency (electors-wise)

Lakshadweep (47972)

Rajya Sabha – Rajya Sabha Members

Indian Parliament is bicameral in nature i.e. that it has two houses. Rajya Sabha is one of those two houses, i.e. the upper house of the Parliament. The other house is the Lok Sabha (Lower House of the Parliament.) (You may check the [differences between Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha](#) in the linked article.) Rajya Sabha is the second chamber of the parliament and represents the states and union territories of the nation. It is empowered to protect the interests of the states and union territories if there is an interference by the centre in their work.

Also, to read about [Lok Sabha](#) in detail, check the linked article.

Composition of Rajya Sabha:

Composition of Rajya Sabha	
Maximum Strength – 250	238 represent States & Union Territories
	12 are nominated by the president
Current Strength – 232 (13 Vacancies)Total – 245	216 members represent the states
	4 members represent the union territories
	12 members are nominated by the president
Note: Fourth Schedule of Indian Constitution deals with allocation of seats in Rajya Sabha	

How are the Rajya Sabha members elected?

Rajya Sabha Members are elected by the elected members of state legislative assemblies using a method of proportional representation.

Note: Representation of States in Rajya Sabha is not equal. It depends on its population. State with a larger population will have more number of seats in Rajya Sabha than those with a lesser population.

Rajya Sabha Elections

There are three types of representation in Rajya Sabha :

Representation of States in Rajya Sabha:

- Members are **elected by the elected members of state legislative assemblies**
- Election Principle used – Proportional Representation by means of Single Transferable Vote
- The population of the state is a factor that decides the representation of states in Rajya Sabha

Representation of Union Territories in Rajya Sabha:

- Members of Rajya Sabha belonging to Union Territories are **indirectly elected by members of an electoral college**, that is constituted for this purpose
- Election Principle used – Proportional Representation by means of Single Transferable Vote

Note: Out of 8 union territories, Delhi, Puducherry and Jammu and Kashmir have representation in Rajya Sabha.

Representation of Nominated Members in Rajya Sabha:

12 people are nominated by the President in Rajya Sabha for their contribution and expertise in the fields of:

- Art
- Literature
- Science
- Social Service

Facts related to Rajya Sabha elections in UPSC:

Two changes were made to Rajya Sabha election in 2003:

1. To be elected as a Rajya Sabha member from a particular state, the requirement to be an elector from that state was removed.
2. System of the open ballot was introduced in place of secret ballot system.

Can Rajya Sabha get dissolved?

Rajya Sabha is a permanent body and also called a 'continuing chamber.' Unlike Lok Sabha which usually runs for 5 years and the fresh elections are taken up, Rajya Sabha has no specific tenure and it keeps on running. Therefore, it is never dissolved.

Note:

- Every second year, one-third of its members retire. For the vacant seats, fresh elections take place. However, nominations are taken up at the beginning of the third year.
- Representation of the People Act, 1951 authorizes the President to make provisions to govern the order of retirement of the members of the Rajya Sabha.

Who is Rajya Sabha Chairman & Deputy Chairman?

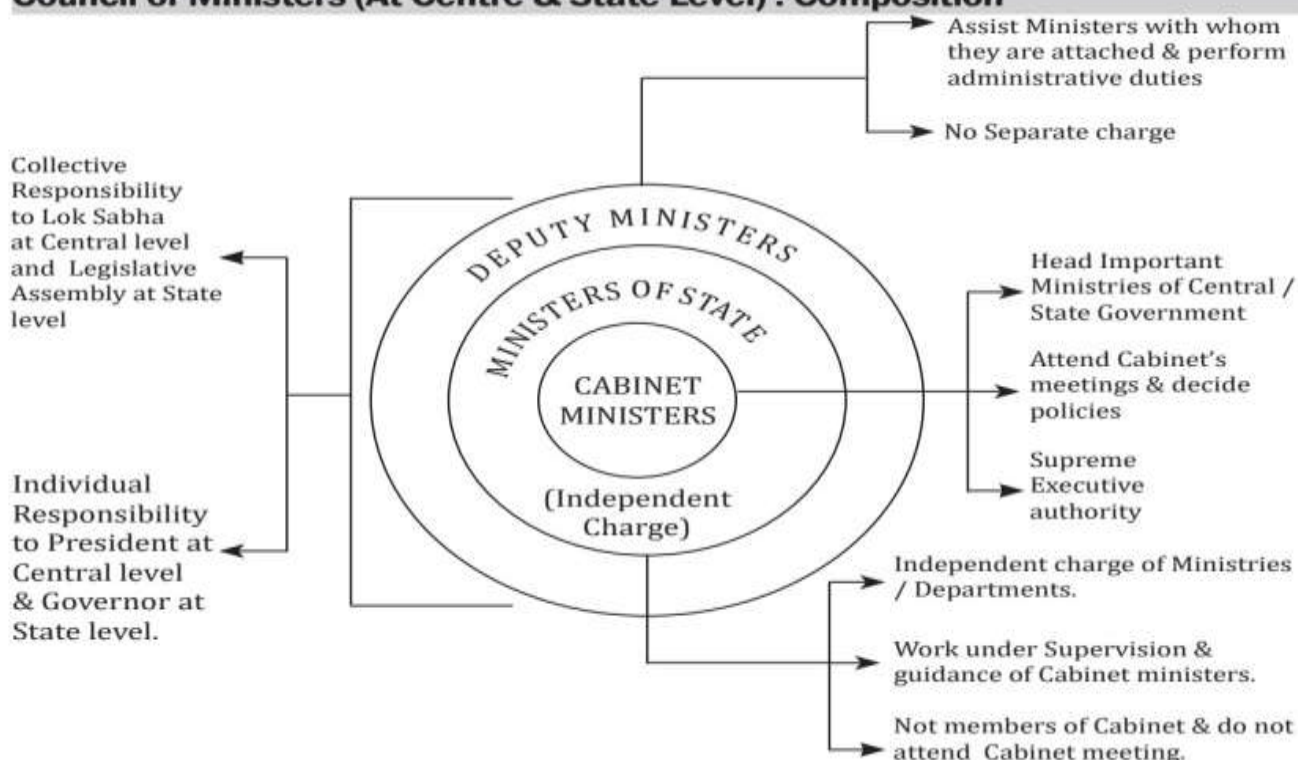
Indian Vice-President is an ex-officio chairman of Rajya Sabha, while the deputy chairman of Rajya Sabha is one who is elected from amongst Rajya Sabha members. The details on Rajya Sabha Chairman and Deputy Chairman are given in the table below:

Details	Rajya Sabha Chairman	Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman
Role	He presides the upper house	<p>He presides the upper house whenever given-below conditions arise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seat of chairman falls vacant • When Chairman/Vice-President has to act as President • When Chairman is absent from the sitting <p>Note: In all three cases, Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha has all the powers of Chairman of Rajya Sabha</p>

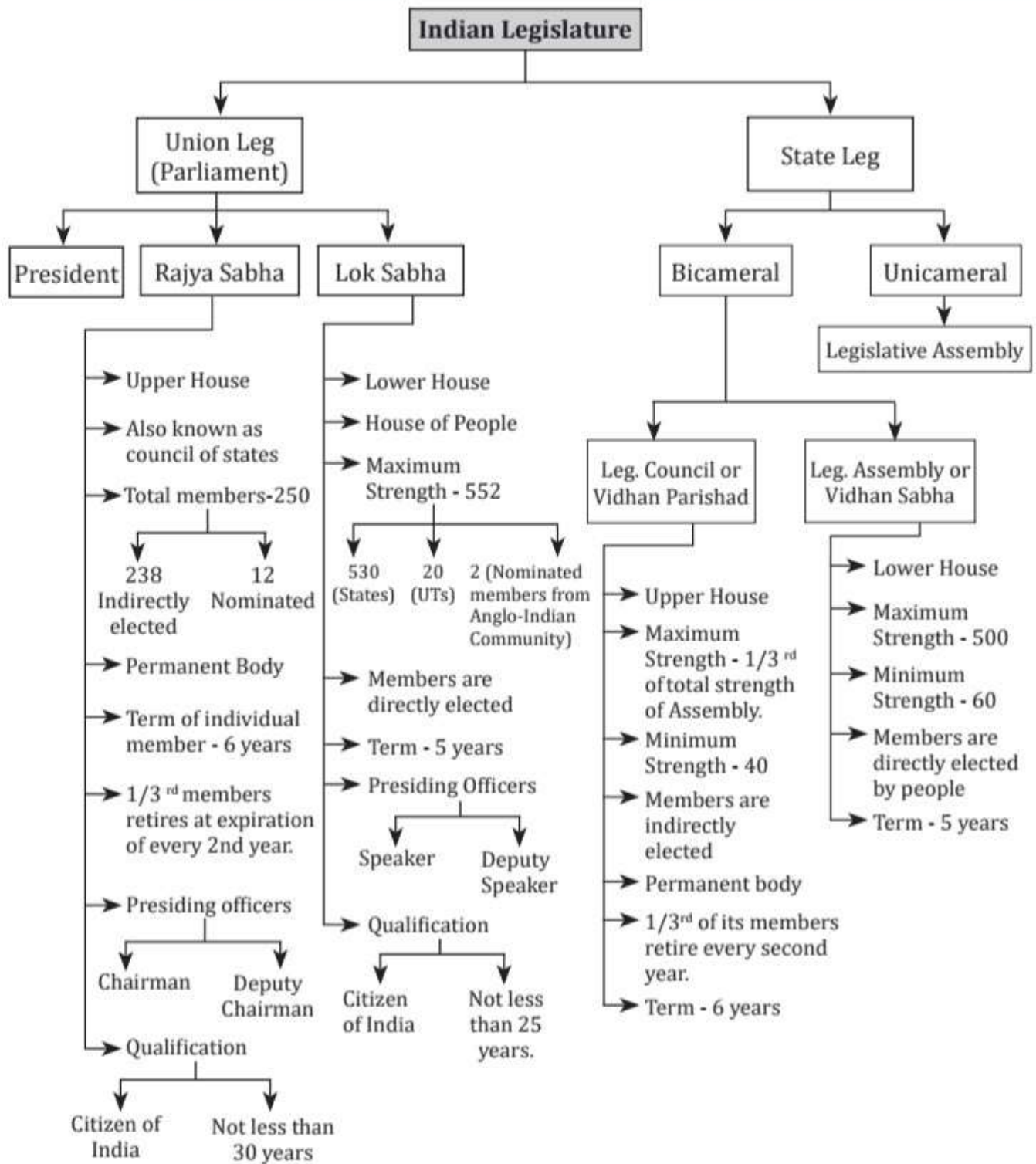
Removal	<p>He can be removed as the chairman of Rajya Sabha only when he is removed from the seat of Vice-President of India</p> <p>Note: While the resolution is moved, he can't preside the house as chairman, though he can be a part of the house, speak in the house</p>	<p>He can be removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all the members of the Rajya Sabha</p> <p>Note: The resolution to remove him can be moved only after giving 14 days' advance notice</p>
Is he a member of the house?	No	Yes
Can he vote in the house?	<p>He cannot vote in the first instance</p> <p>Note: He can vote in the case of an equality of votes</p>	<p>When he presides as the chairman, he too cannot vote in the first instance but can exercise casting vote in case of a tie</p> <p>Note: When Chairman is present in the house, Deputy Chairman is an ordinary member in the house and can speak, participate in proceedings and even vote in the questions of house</p>
Salary	<p>Fixed by Parliament</p> <p>Note: His salary is charged on the Consolidated Fund of India. (Read more about funds of India in the linked article)</p> <p>Note: When Chairman of the house has to act as President of India, he is not entitled to a salary of Chairman of Rajya Sabha but of President of India</p>	<p>Fixed by Parliament</p> <p>Note: His salary is charged on Consolidated Fund of India</p>

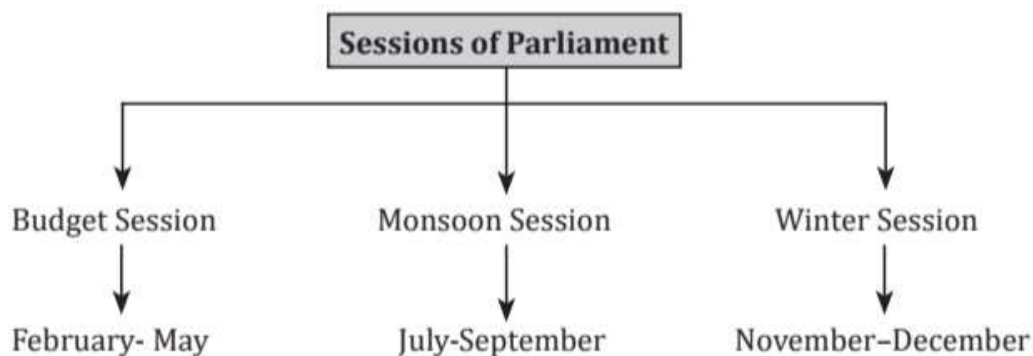
What is the principle of the election in Rajya Sabha?	Proportional Representation with the means of Single Transferable Vote
How many Department Related Standing Committees (DRSC) are there in Rajya Sabha?	There are 8 Standing Committees in Rajya Sabha. (To read more on Parliamentary Committees , check the linked article)
What is the role of Rajya Sabha in the passage of Money Bill?	Rajya Sabha cannot introduce, reject or amend the <u>Money Bill</u> but has to return the bill with or without amendments
Who is the leader of Rajya Sabha?	Like Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha also has a leader who is a minister and a member of the house and is nominated by the prime minister to function as such
What is the qualification of Rajya Sabha members?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be an Indian Citizen • Must be not less than 30 years of age • Must be registered as an elector for a parliamentary constituency

Council of Ministers (At Centre & State Level) : Composition



Parliament





Control of the Parliament Over the Executive	
Question hour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First hour of every parliamentary sitting. • Starred questions are answered orally and supplementary questions can follow. • Unstarred questions are answered in writing. • Short notice questions are asked giving less than 10 days notice.
Zero hour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starts immediately after the question hour. • Any matter can be discussed during the zero hour.
Half-an-hour discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To clear fact on matters of public importance on which lot of debate has occurred.
Short duration discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To discuss urgent matters. • Also known as two hour discussion.
Calling Attention Motion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moved to call the attention of a minister to matters of public importance.
Adjournment Motion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To draw attention of Parliament to a matter of urgent public importance. • Motion needs the support of 50 members for admission. • Rajya Sabha cannot move this motion.
No Confidence Motion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moved to prove the confidence of Lok Sabha in the Council of Ministers. • If No Confidence Motion is passed, Council of Ministers has to resign. • No Confidence Motion needs the support of 50 members to be admitted. • Can be moved only in Lok Sabha.
Censure Motion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This motion seeks to censure the government for its lapses. • If the Censure Motion is passed against the government, it should pass a Confidence Motion as soon as possible to regain the confidence of the house. • And government, does not need to resign immediately unlike in caseW of No-Confidence Motion. • It can be moved against an individual minister for specific policies or actions. This motion should state the reason for its adoption. It is in practice since 1954.

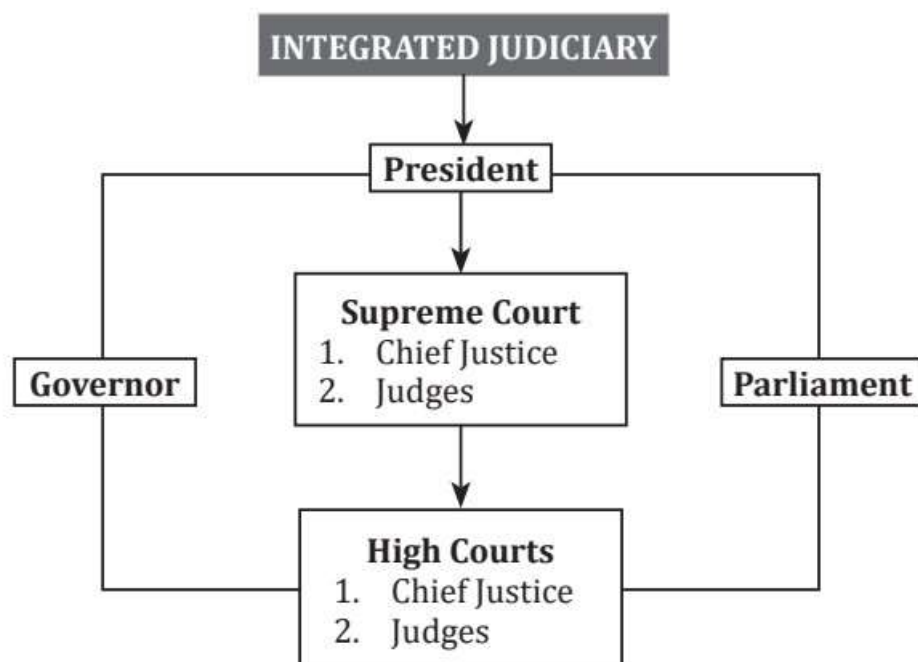
Introduction to Indian Judiciary

The judiciary is that branch of the government that interprets the law, settles disputes and administers justice to all citizens. The judiciary is considered the watchdog of democracy, and also the guardian of the Constitution. For democracy to function effectively, it is imperative to have an impartial and independent judiciary.

Independent Indian Judiciary

- It means that the other branches of the government, namely, the executive and the legislature, does not interfere with the judiciary's functioning.
- The judiciary's decision is respected and not interfered with by the other organs.
- It also means that judges can perform their duties without fear or favour.

Independence of the judiciary also does not mean that the judiciary functions arbitrarily and without any accountability. It is accountable to the Constitution of the country.

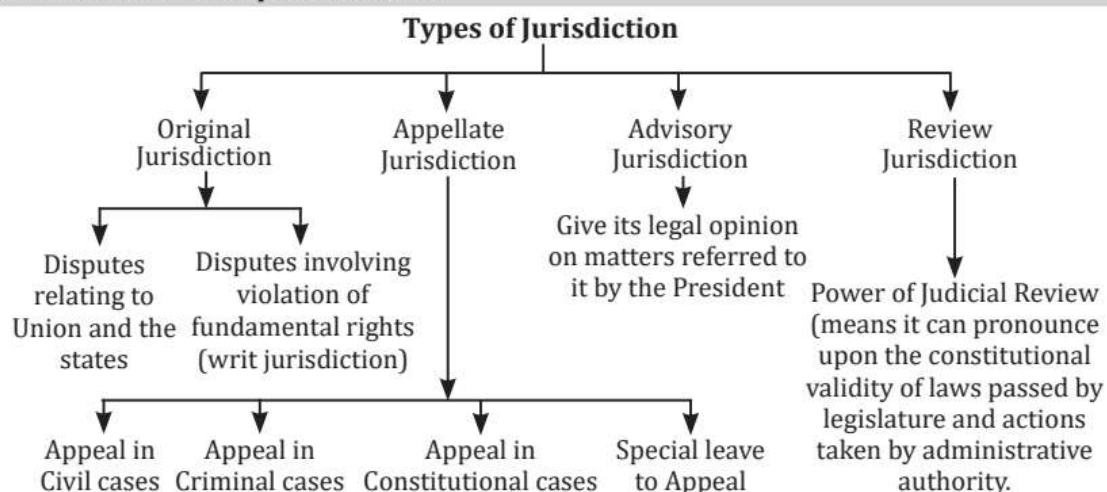


Supreme Court

- Supreme court is the final interpreter & guardian of our Constitution. It is the highest court of appeal in India.
- Presently there are 31 judges (including Chief justice) in Supreme Court.
- The CJI is appointed by the President.
- There is no fixed period of office for SC judges. Once appointed, they hold office till the age of 65 years
- A judge of SC can be removed from his office only by the process of impeachment.
- According to Article 129, SC is a "Court of Record". It means:-
 - (a) Court records are admitted to be of evidentiary value.

- (b) It can punish for Contempt of the Court.
- Qualification for appointment as a Judge of SC :-
 - Citizen of India.
 - Either be a distinguished jurist, or one who has been a High Court Judge for at least 5 years or an advocate of a High Court (or 2 or more such courts in Succession) for at least 10 years.

Jurisdiction of Supreme Court



Removal of Supreme Court Judge

1. A motion presented to the President signed by at least 100 members of the Lok Sabha or 50 members of Rajya Sabha is delivered to the Speaker or the Chairman.
2. The motion is investigated by a committee of 3 judges (2 judges of Supreme Court and a distinguish jurist).
3. The motion is passed in each House by majority of total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present.
4. After retirement, a Judge of the Supreme Court cannot plead or act in any court in India.

High Court

- The judiciary in a State consists of a HC & a hierarchy of Subordinate courts.
- The judges of HC are appointed by the President.
- The judge of a HC holds office until he attains the age of 62 years. He can be removed by the process of Impeachment.
- Qualification: a person appointed as a judge of HC should
 - Be a citizen of India.
 - Must have held a judicial office in the territory of India for 10 years or have been on advocate a high court for 10 years.

A High Court Judge can leave his office in the following cases

1. By resignation in writing addressed to the President.
 2. By being appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court or being transferred to any other High Court by the President.
 3. By removal by the President.
 4. The mode of removal of a Judge of the High Court is same as that of a Judge of the Supreme Court.
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GEOGRAPHY

River

- ✚ The river is the biggest source of water. Rivers provide us water to drink, irrigation, electricity, cook, clean things and easy & cheap transportation. It is also a source of fresh water that flows naturally towards an ocean, lake, sea or another river. Rivers flow in channels. The bottom of the channel is called the bed and sides of the channel are called the banks. Sometimes a river flows into the ground and becomes dry at the end of its course without reaching another body of water.
- ✚ Rivers begin at their source in the higher ground such as mountains or hills, where rainwater or melting snow collects and forms tiny streams. When one stream meets another and they merge together, the smaller stream is known as a tributary. It takes many tributary streams to form a river.
- ✚ As a river flows, it carries along with material or debris, called its load. A river's load includes rocks, stones, and other large particles, which are washed along the river bed. Finer particles float in the water. A river grows larger as it collects water from more tributaries along its course.
- ✚ The river ends at a mouth. In larger rivers, there is often also a wider floodplain shaped by flood waters over-topping the channel. Floodplains may be very wide in relation to the size of the river channel.

Important Rivers in World

- There are so many rivers in all over the world. The rivers are determined by its length. The River **Nile** is the ***longest river*** in the world. It measures 6,695 kilometers from its source Burundi, along the White Nile, to its delta on the Mediterranean Sea. Officially, the shortest river is the D River, Oregon, USA, which is just 37 meters long.
- **The biggest river in the world is the Amazon**, measured by the amount of water that flows down in it. On average 120,000 cubic meters of water flows out of its mouth every second.
- The longest river in **Europe** is the **River Volga**. It flows primarily in a southerly direction through Russia into the Caspian Sea.

Important Rivers in India

The important rivers of India are Ganga, Yamuna, Brahmaputra, Indus, Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, Kaveri, Narmada and Tapti.

1. **Ganga:** Ganga is the holiest river according to Hindu. It has started from the Gangotri in the Himalayas and poured into the Bay of Bengal by traveling of around 2525 km. It is the 3rd largest river in the world. There are a number of cities had been developed across the banks of Ganga like Pataliputra, Kashi, Allahabad, Varanasi, Kolkata, etc. It had also created the World's largest delta in West Bengal named as Sundarban delta.
2. **Yamuna:** Yamuna River had originated from Yamunotri Glacier in the Himalayas, then travels across several states and merged into the Ganga at Triveni, Allahabad. Its total length is 1376 km. Yamuna River's water contributed nearly 70% of Delhi's water supply. The Taj Mahal is situated on the banks of Yamuna River.
3. **Brahmaputra:** Brahmaputra River is originated from Angsi Glacier, the northern Himalayas in Tibet, then entered into the Arunachal Pradesh to Assam and then merges with the Padma river in Bangladesh. Its length is around 2900 km and plays an important role in irrigation and transportation. It emptied into the Bay of Bengal.
4. **Indus River:** The Indus River is historically famous in Asia. It originated from the Tibetan Plateau and then flows through the Ladakh then entered into Pakistan and finally merge into the Arabian Sea after traveling a distance of 3180 km.
5. **Mahanadi River:** Mahanadi is a major river in the state of Chhattisgarh and Odisha. Mahanadi's water is used in the irrigation and drinking purpose, it is also called the ruin of Orissa due to its devastating floods over the years but till Hirakud Dam was constructed. Its total length is 858 km.
6. **Godavari:** The Godavari is the longest river in southern India and 2nd largest in India after Ganga. It is originated from Maharashtra and flows through Andhra Pradesh, then merges into the Bay of Bengal after traveling a distance of 1465 km.
7. **Krishna:** The 3rd longest river in India after Ganga and Godavari, Krishna River which is originated from Mahabaleshwar in Maharashtra and flows through the state of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and finally merges into the Bay of Bengal by traveling a distance of 1400 km.

8. **Kaveri:** The Kaveri River is one of the large rivers in India which is originated from Talakaveri in the Western Ghats of Karnataka and flows through the states of Karnataka & Tamilnadu, finally merges into the Bay of Bengal by traveling a distance of 765 km.
9. **Narmada:** Narmada River is the 5th Longest in the Indian sub-continent. It is also called the Lifeline of Madhya Pradesh due to its huge contributions. Narmada River is originated from Narmada Kund, Amarkantak in Madhya Pradesh and merges into the Arabian Sea near Gujarat after traveling a distance of 1312 km.
10. **Tapti:** Tapti River is one of the major rivers in Central India. Its total length is around 724 km which flows through the states of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra and finally merges into the Gulf of Cambay of Arabian Sea near Gujarat

Geography – Rivers & Drainage System of India

The flow of water through channels is called drainage. The network of such channels is known as the drainage system. On the basis of origin, an Indian drainage system is divided into – Himalayan rivers and Peninsular rivers.

Himalayan Rivers

- The major Himalayan rivers are the Ganga, the Indus and the Brahmaputra.
- These rivers are very long compared to the rivers of South India.
- They are called perennial rivers as they are fed by both rainfall and the melting of snow.

Indus River System

- It is also known as Sindhu river. Total length is 2880 km.
- Source – Kailash Range, Tibet near Mansarovar Lake. Destination – Arabian Sea.
- Panchnad – Jhelum (Vitasta), Chenab (Chandrabhaga), Ravi (Iravati), Beas (Bipasha) and Sutlej (Satadru).

RIVER	SOURCE	DAMS/HYDRO PROJECT
Jhelum	Verinag	Uri
Chenub	Bara Lacha Pass	Dul Hasti
Ravi Beas	Rohtang Pass	–
Sultuj	Near Mansarovar	Govind Sagar/Bhakra Nangal Dam

Ganga River System

Source – Gangotri glacier near Gomukh, Uttarakhand in the Kumaon Himalaya.

- It is named as Bhagirathi here. At Devprayag, Alakananda joins Bhagirathi and becomes Ganga.
- In Allahabad it is joined by the Yamuna, the largest tributary of Ganga, rising from Yamunotri glacier.
- Left bank tributaries – Ramganga, Gandak, Kosi, Gharghara, Gomati.
- Right bank tributaries – Son.
- Kosi, a tributary, is flood prone. So it is known as “Sorrow of Bihar”.
- Ganga flows through Uttarakhand, UP, MP, Chattisgarh, Bihar, Jharkhand and WB.
- It bifurcates into Bhagirathi and Hooghly in WB and Padma-Meghna in Bangladesh.
- Ganga-Brahmaputra delta is the largest delta in the world.
- Total length of Ganga – 2530 km.
- Ganga Basin area is 9,51,600 sq. km.
- The plain area from Haridwar to Ganga’s mouth is fertile with alluvial soil.

Brahmaputra

Source – Chemayung-Dung glacier near Mansarovar in Tibet.

- In Tibet it is known as Tsangpo.
- It turns SW near Namcha Barwa in Arunachal Pradesh and enters India as Dihang
- Near Sadiya, Dihang enters into India where Dibang and Lohit join it to make Brahmaputra.
- Finally it enters into Bangladesh as Jamuna and meets Padma to drain into Bay of Bengal.

- Right bank tributaries – Subansiri, Kameng, Manas.
- Left bank tributaries – Buri Dihang, Kameng.
- Majuli is a large riverine island of Brahmaputra.
- Total length of Brahmaputra is 2900 km.

Peninsular River Systems

- Peninsular rivers are both west and east flowing.
- Narmada and Tapi drain into Arabian Sea where Mahanadi, Godavari, Cauvery and Krishna drain into Bay of Bengal.
- East flowing rivers form delta where west flowing rivers don't form delta.
- Narmada and Tapi are rift valleys.

RIVER	ORIGIN	DAMS/ HYDRO PROJECT	IMPORTANT NOTES
Mahanadi	Dandakaranya, Raipur, Chattishgarh	Hirakud	Largest and longest river of Odisha
Godavari	Trimbak plateau, Nasik, Maharashtra	–	Largest river of South India Known as South Ganga
Krishna	Mahabaleswar in Maharashtra	Nagarjuna Sagar	Tributaries – Tungabhadra, Koyna, Ghatprabha, Bhima, Dudhganga.
Kaveri	Tala Cauvery, Western Ghat		Shivasamudram Waterfalls
Narmada	Amarkantak Plateau, MP	Narmada Valley project	Duan Dhar falls. Flows through rift valley between Vindhayan and Satpura range

Tapi	Multai in Betul district, MP	Ukai	Known as the twin of Narmada
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Inter-State River Disputes - Rivers & Drainage System of India

Cauvery Water Dispute

- Cauvery is an interstate river that originates in Karnataka and flows through Tamil Nadu and Puducherry before flowing into the Bay of Bengal.
- In 1892, the Cauvery agreement was made between Mysore state and other Princely states
- In 1924, the agreement was renewed for another 50 years
- In 1970, The Tamil Nadu government asked the Central government to set up a tribunal and in the same year, the Tamil Nadu Farmers Association filed a civil suit in the Supreme Court.
- The Cauvery Water disputes tribunal was set up in the year 1990
- The Tribunal passed an interim in the year 1991 ordering the state of Karnataka to release 205 thousand million cubic feet of water to Tamil Nadu from it's reservoirs.
- Karnataka refused to obey the order and after 16 years of hearing, another judgement was passed allocating 419 thousand million cubic feet of water to Tamil Nadu.
- Karnataka again refused to obey the order and a case of contempt of court was filed against the state.
- The matter is still under judicial view.

Satluj Yamuna Link Canal Issue

- The dispute started when the state of Haryana was separated from Punjab in the year 1966
- To enable Haryana to use its share of water from Sutlej and Beas, the construction of a canal was planned in the year 1982.
- The construction was stopped in 1986 due to protests from Punjab
- Haryana approached the Supreme Court for completing the construction of the canal in 2002. The court ordered Punjab to finish construction in 12 months.
- In 2004, Punjab assembly passed a water sharing act which scrapped all its water sharing dues.
- The Supreme Court declared this act as Unconstitutional 12 years later in 2016
- The Centre has opted to act as a mediator in this case.

Natural Vegetation Of India

Definition of Natural Vegetation

- Natural Vegetation refers to a plant community which has grown naturally without human aid and has been left undisturbed for a long time. It is also referred to as Virgin Vegetation.
- Thus, cultivated crops and fruits, orchards form part of the vegetation but not natural vegetation.

Factors Affecting Natural Vegetation

1. **Land:** Fertile lands generally are much more used for agriculture as compared to a rough terrain where woodlands develop
2. **Soil:** Different type of soils cater to different type of vegetation. Sandy soils of desert support thorny bushes while wet marshy deltaic soils support mangroves and deltaic vegetation. The hill slopes with some depth of soil have conical trees.
3. **Temperature:** Fall in temperature due to height like in Himalayas changes the vegetation from tropical to subtropical climate and alpine vegetation
4. **Sunlight:** As is known, more the sunlight higher the growth of trees. Due to sunlight being an important part of photosynthesis
5. **Precipitation:** Areas of heavy rainfall tend to have denser vegetation as compared to areas with less rainfall

Facts About Natural Vegetation:

- Home to 47000 plant species, India occupies 10th place accounting for 11% of total plant species in the world, with 28% of them being endemic to India.
- India has 6% of world's total flowering plants amounting to 15000 approx.

Types of Natural Vegetation in India

Classification of Natural Vegetation in India is primarily based on the amount of rainfall received. Temperature, soil, and topography are also considered.

India's vegetation is divided into the following 5 main categories:

1. Tropical Evergreen Forests
2. Tropical Deciduous Forests
3. Tropical Thorn Forests
4. Montane Forests

5. Mangrove Forests

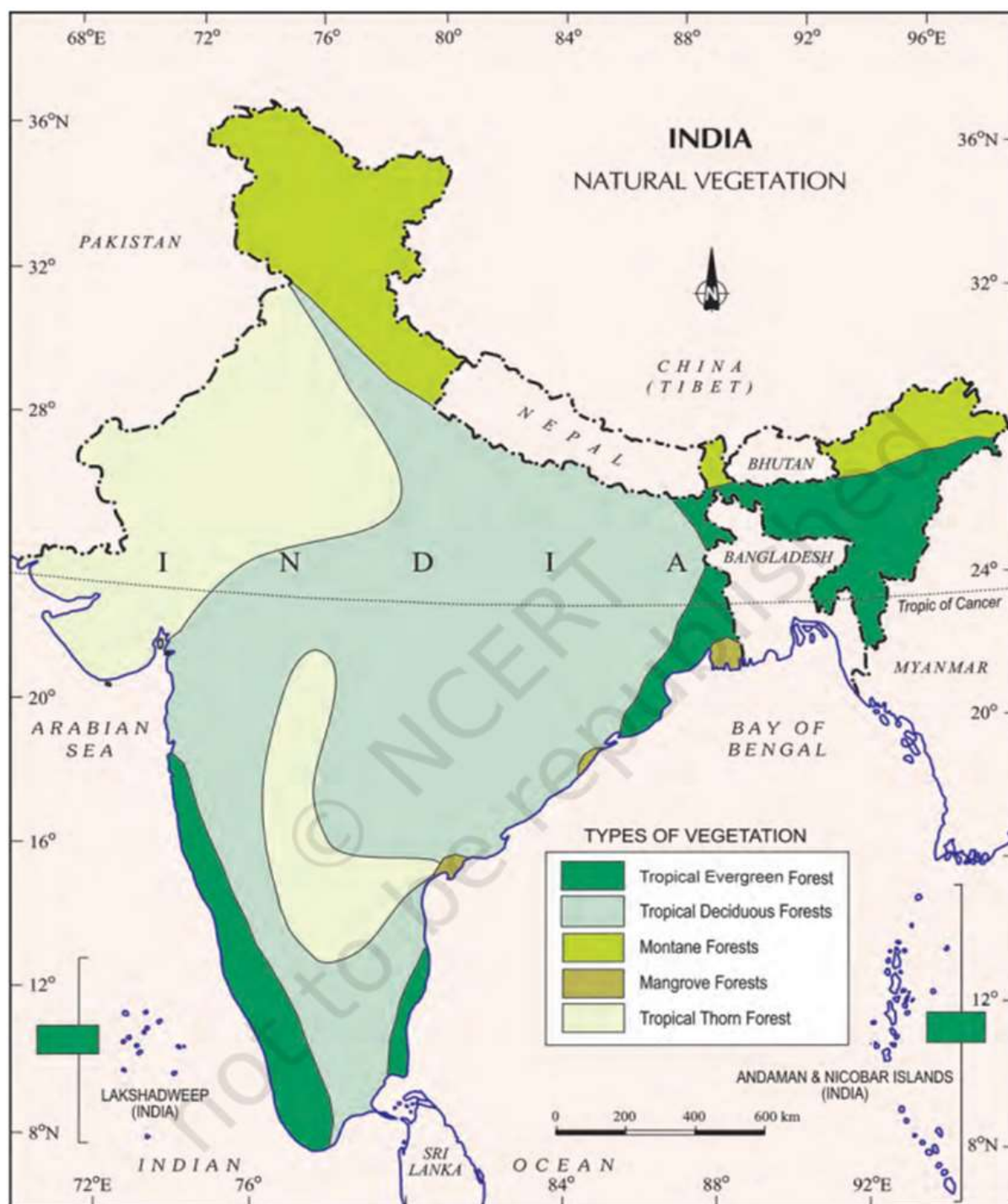


Figure 5.3 : Natural Vegetation

Tropical Evergreen Forest

- Heavy Rainfall areas of Western Ghats and the island groups of Andaman and Nicobar, upper parts of Assam and Tamil Nadu coast.
- The tropical evergreen forests usually occur in areas receiving more than 200 cm of rainfall and having a temperature of 15 to 30 degrees Celsius.

- Trees reach great heights up to 60 metres or even above.
- It has a luxuriant vegetation of all kinds – trees, shrubs, and creepers giving it a multi-layered structure.

Note:

- They occupy about seven per cent of the earth's land surface and harbours more than half of the world's plants and animals.
- They are found mostly near the equator.
- Region is warm and wet throughout the year.

Tropical Deciduous Forests:

- Also called the monsoon forests and spread over the region receiving rainfall between 200 cm and 70 cm.
- They are the most widespread forests of India.
- Trees of this forest type shed their leaves for about six to eight weeks in dry summer.
- On the basis of the availability of water, these forests are further divided into moist and dry deciduous.
- **Moist Deciduous Forests**
- Found in areas receiving rainfall between 200 and 100 cm.
- Found mostly in north-eastern states, along the foothills of Himalayas, Jharkhand, West Orissa and Chhattisgarh, and on the eastern slopes of the Western Ghats.
- Teak is the most dominant species of this forest. Other commercially important species include *bamboos*, mulberry, *sal*, *shisham*, sandalwood, *khair*, *kusum* and *arjun*.

Dry Deciduous Forests

- Found in areas receiving rainfall between 100 cm and 70 cm.
- Found in rainier parts of the peninsular plateau and plains of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.
- Consist of open stretches in which Teak, Sal, *Peepal*, *Neem* grow.
- Large part of the region has been cleared for cultivation and some parts are used for grazing.

Tropical Thorn Forests and Scrubs

- Found in region with rainfall less than 70 cm.
- Consist of thorny trees and bushes.

- Found in north-western part of the country including semi-arid areas of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana.
- The trees of the thorny bushes have long roots which penetrate deep into the soil in search of water.
- Leaves are thick and small to minimise evaporation
- Stems are succulent(containing a lot of juice/water) to conserve water.

Montane Forests

- At higher elevations, the climate is harsher, with lower temperatures and higher winds, preventing the growth of trees and causing the plant community to transition to montane grasslands, shrublands or alpine tundra.
- The three sub-categories of Montane Forests are:

Wet Temperate Forests

- Found between 1000 and 2000 metres.
- Evergreen broad-leaf trees such as oaks and chestnuts predominate
- The mean annual rainfall here is 150 cm to 300 cm, the mean annual temperature is about 11°C to 14°C and the average relative humidity is over 80 per cent.
- Found in the higher hilly areas of Kerala and Tamil Nadu, Assam, West Bengal, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland.
- Chilauni, Indian chestnut, Deodar, Machilus, Cinnamomum, Litsea, Plum, Blue pine, Birch, Oak, Hemlock, etc. are important species

Temperate Forests

- At a height of 1500-3000
- The overall length of mountain ranges in Kashmir, Uttaranchal, Himachal Pradesh Sikkim and Darjeeling are covered by Himalayan temperate forests.
- The annual rainfall varies from 150 cm to 250 cm. Fine wood is provided by them which is of great use for timber, construction and sleepers of railways.
- Oaks, laurels, rhododendrons and some kinds of bamboos are also found in these forests.

Alpine Forests

- Located at a height of more than 3600 m.

- Alpine forests are characterised by silver fir, junipers, pines and birches trees.
- The south-west monsoon here is very feeble and the rainfall is below 100 cm, mostly snow.
- Lichens and mosses are found in the natural vegetation at higher altitudes.

Mangrove Forests

- Found in deltas of the Ganga, the Mahanadi, the Krishna, the Godavari and the Kaveri.
- In the Ganga Brahmaputra delta, sundari trees are found.

Now some common and important features of all Mangrove features around the globe are

- It is in the tropical and subtropical tidal areas, Mangrove forests are commonly found.
- Mangroves occur in areas such as estuaries and marine shorelines.
- They contain a complex root system and complex salt filtration system for coping up with the saltwater immersion.
- The ability to adapt to low oxygen conditions of waterlogged mud is a feature of Mangrove forests.
- Mangrove forests can be found in the saltwater coastal areas of 118 tropical and subtropical countries, which is more than 137,000 square kilometres.
- They have the ability to improve water quality by purifying pollutants and trapping sediments from the land.
- Mangroves can reduce coastal erosion.
- Mangrove forests are characterized by a humid climate, saline environment, and waterlogged soil.
- Special characteristics of mangrove forests include adaptation to low levels of oxygen, uptaking nutrients from the atmosphere, limiting salt intake, increasing survival of offspring and limiting water loss.
- Mangrove forests play an important role in the maintenance of marine ecosystem structure.
- Around 3 % of the earth's total mangrove vegetation is in India.
- Mangroves are in diverse sizes from shrubs to tall trees. The mangrove plant has a height of 5-25 meters but mainly depends on the age and regional location.
- **Note:** Asia has the largest share (42%) of the world's mangroves. In terms of diversity of flora, a total of 46 true mangrove species belonging to fourteen families are found in Indian mangrove habitats. Large-leafed mangroves known as the oriental mangroves are one of the most common true mangrove plant species.

Road Transport in India

India's road network is second largest in the world. The **total length of roads is more than 54 lakh km.**

- For the purpose of maintenance and construction, roads are classified into National Highways, State Highways, District Highways, Village Roads, Border Roads, etc.
- National highways are maintained by the Central Government, State highways by the respective state government while District highways by the respective District Board. Border roads and International highways are also responsibility of Central Government.
- The present length of the **National Highways in India is approx. 45,000 km.** They constitute only 2% of the total road length and carries nearly 40% of the road traffic.

Some of the Important National Highways are:

- **NH 1:** New Delhi – Ambala – Jalandhar – Amritsar.
- **NH 2:** Delhi – Mathura – Agra – Kanpur – Allahabad – Varanasi – Kolkata.
- **NH 3:** Agra – Gwalior – Nasik – Mumbai
- **NH 4:** Thane and Chennai via Pune and Belgaun.
- **NH 5:** Kolkata – Chennai
- **NH 6:** Kolkata – Dhule
- **NH 7:** Varanasi – Kanyakumari
- **NH 8:** Delhi – Mumbai (via Jaipur, Baroda and Ahmedabad)
- **NH 9:** Mumbai – Vijaywada
- **NH 10:** Delhi – Fazilka
- **NH 11:** Agra – Bikaner
- **NH 12:** Jabalpur – Jaipur
- **NH 24:** Delhi – Lucknow
- **NH 27:** Allahabad – Varanasi
- **NH 28:** Barauni – Lucknow
- **NH 29:** Gorakhpur – Varanasi
- **NH 56:** Lucknow – Varanasi
- **NH 44** is the longest highway of India.

Note:

Golden Quadrilateral comprises the National Highways connecting the four metro cities, viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata. The component has a total length of 5846km and is scheduled for substantial completion by December 2003.

The North South Corridor comprises the National highways connecting Srinagar to Kanyakumari including Kochi Salem spur and the East West Corridor comprises the National Highways connecting Silchar to Porbander. The project has a total length of about 7300km.

State Roads

- Constructed and maintained by the State Public Works Department.
- Roads linking state capital with different district headquarters are state roads.
- These roads constitute 5.6% of total length of all roads. These are classed as rural roads and interlink rural areas and village with towns. More than 93% of the total roads belong to this class.

Total Length of Roads (statewise in descending order):

- Maharashtra Orissa
- Uttar Pradesh
- Tamil Nadu
- Madhya Pradesh
- Andhra Pradesh
- Kerala Karnataka
- Rajasthan
- Gujarat
- Bihar

Length of National Highways (statewise in descending order):

- Madhya Pradesh
 - Andhra Pradesh
 - Maharashtra
 - Uttar Pradesh
 - Rajasthan
 - Assam Bihar
 - Tamil Nadu
 - Karnataka
 - West Bengal
 - Orissa
 - Gujarat
- Lowest in Jammu and Kashmir (10 km)
 - Highest in Kerala (375 km) National Average (75 km)

Density of metalled roads

- National average - (42.4 km)
- Goa has the highest density - (153.8 km)
- Jammu and Kashmir has the lowest density (3.7 km)

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ECONOMICS

TAX SYSTEM OF INDIA

- When a country or a state legislature enacts a new tax, the debate usually includes some opinions about who should pay for running the government or for the particular program being supported by the tax. A means by which government finance their expenditure by imposing charges on citizens and corporate entities.
 - Economists distinguish between those who bear the burden of a tax and those on whom a tax is imposed. Taxes in India are imposed by the Central Government and the state governments. Some minor taxes are also imposed by the local authorities such as Municipality.
 - According to Indian Constitution, Article 246 distributes legislative powers including taxation, between the Parliament of India and the State Legislature. The Central Board of Revenue or Department of Revenue is the apex body charged with the administration of taxes. It is a part of Ministry of Finance which came into existence as a result of the Central Board of Revenue Act, 1924.
1. **Central Government** levies taxes on income (except the tax on agricultural income, which the State Governments can levy), customs duties, and central excise and service tax.
 2. **State Government** levies taxes - Value Added Tax (VAT), Stamp Duty, State Excise, Land Revenue and Profession Tax.
 3. **Local bodies** are empowered to levy the tax on Properties, Octroi and for utilization like water supply, drainage etc.

In Indian taxation system, the system is divided into two taxes - **Direct Taxation** and **Indirect Taxation**.

Direct Taxes - In Direct Taxes, the burden directly falls on the taxpayer.

- **Income Tax** - According to Income Tax Act 1961, every person, who is an assessee and whose total income exceeds the maximum exemption limit, shall be chargeable to the income tax at the rate prescribed in the Financial Act. Such income tax shall be paid on the total income of the previous year in the relevant assessment year.
- **Wealth Tax** - Wealth tax, in India, is levied under Wealth-tax Act, 1957. Wealth tax is a tax on the benefits derived from property ownership. The tax is to be paid year after year on the same property on its market value. Chargeability to tax also depends upon the residential status of the

assessee same as the residential status for the purpose of the Income Tax Act.

Introduction of GST

The GST (Goods and Services Tax) is a unified indirect tax across the country on goods and services.

- **Before GST**- Tax is levied at each stage separately by the Central government and the State government at varying rates.
- **After GST**- the Single tax levied on the supply of goods and services, right from the manufacturer to the end consumer.

Example

Manufacturer of Bike to Wholesaler	Without GST	With GST
Cost of Production	90000	90000
Profit Margin @10 %	10000	10000
Price of Manufacturing (cost of production + Profit Margin)	100000	100000
Excise Duty @15 %	15000	-
Total Value	115000 ((Price of manufacturing + Excise duty)	100000
Vat @14 %	16100	-
GST (CGST + SGST) @28 % (These are levied on different- different point but total value is combined to 28 %)	-	28000
Total Price	131100	128000

Taxes that will be subsumed in GST

GST replaced almost all the indirect taxes which are-

At Central level-

- Central Excise Duty
- Service Tax
- Additional Customs Duty (Countervailing Duty)
- Special Additional Duty of Customs (SAD) etc

At State level-

- VAT/Sales tax
- Entertainment tax
- Luxury Tax
- Taxes on lottery, betting and gambling etc

History of GST

- The first country to introduce GST system was France.
- In the year 1999, NDA government constituted a committee headed by then finance minister West Bengal, Asim Dasgupta to design a GST model.
- In the year 2003, NDA government formed a task force under Vijay Kelkar to recommend tax reforms and Kelkar committee recommended rolling out GST as suggested by the 12th Finance Commission.

GST Legislation

- The Constitution (122 Amend.) Bill, 2014 seeks to amend the Constitution to introduce the Goods and Services Tax (GST).
- The GST Constitutional (122nd Amend.) Bill, 2014 became the GST Constitutional (101st Amendment) Act' 2016 when the president assented the provisions of the bill on 8th Sept 2016.
- Due to Introduction GST act, following major changes took place in Indian constitution-
 - (a) Changes in 6th and 7th schedules of the constitution
 - (b) Introduction to Articles 246A and 269A.
- Major Components of GST ACT-
 - (a) **Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST)**- to be levied by centre
 - (b) **State Goods and Services Tax (SGST)**- to be levied by state
 - (c) **Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST)**- On inter-state supply of goods and services. It is levied and collected by the Centre and will be shared amongst the Centre and the States.
 - (d) **The Union Territories Goods and Services Tax (UT-GST)**
 - (e) **GST (Compensation to States) ACT, 2017.**

- In GST ACT, Highest tax slab is pegged at 40%.

Implementation of GST-

- The GST is governed by a GST Council, chaired by the Finance Minister of India.

Composition of GST council

1. Union minister of Finance
 2. Union minister of state in charge of finance
 3. Finance ministers of each state governments
- GST council determined different Tax rate slab for different commodities. These rates will be reviewed by the council from time to time.
 - These rates are Zero (No tax) %, 5 %, 12 %, 18 %, 28 %.

Zero percent-Mostly food items like curd, milk, Butter, Milk, flour etc, Newspaper, handloom etc.

Five Percent- Packaged food items, Fertilizers, Coffee, Tea, Spices, Coal, Medicines, Transport services, Postage and Revenue stamps, Restaurant bills, E-Waste etc.

Twelve Percent-Butter, Ghee, Namkeen in packaged forms, Cell phones will be under 12 % tax slab, Non-AC Hotels, Business class air ticket etc.

Eighteen Percent- (Most items will come in this slab), Ice cream, Biscuits, Mineral water, steel products, Telecom services, IT services etc.

Twenty Eight Percent-Pan Masala, Paints, shaving creams, ATM, Automobiles, Chocolate not containing cocoa, automobiles, motorcycles, Five-star hotels, cinemas etc.

- There is a special rate of 0.25% on precious stones (Diamonds) and 3% on gold.

GSTN (GST Network)

- A special GST Network (GSTN) was created for GST implementation.
- The GSTN will provide a shared IT infrastructure and services to Central and State Governments, taxpayers and other stakeholders for the implementation of GST.
- Current Chairman of GSTN- Ajay Bhushan Pandey

Advantages of GST-

The benefits of GST can be summarized as-

- (1) Easy compliance
- (2) Uniformity of tax rates and structures
- (3) Removal of cascading- (Removal of inevitable and sometimes unforeseen chain)

- (4) Higher revenue efficiency- (Due to increase in tax base)
 - (5) Transparency in tax system
-

Balance of Payment (BOP)

The balance of payment is the statement that files all the transactions between the entities, government anatomies, or individuals of one country to another for a given period of time. All the transaction details are mentioned in the statement, giving the authority a clear vision of the flow of funds.

After all, if the items are included in the statement, then the inflow and the outflow of the fund should match. For a country, the balance of payment specifies whether the country has an excess or shortage of funds. It gives an indication of whether the country's export is more than its import or vice versa.

Types of Balance of Payment

The balance of payment is divided into three types:

1. **Current account:** This account scans all the incoming and outgoing of goods and services between countries. All the payments made for raw materials and constructed goods are covered under this account. Few other deliveries that are included in this category are from tourism, engineering, stocks, business services, transportation, and royalties from licenses and copyrights. All these combine together to make a BOP of a country.
2. **Capital account:** Capital transactions like purchase and sale of assets (non-financial) like lands and properties are monitored under this account. This account also records the flow of taxes, acquisition, and sale of fixed assets by immigrants moving into the different country. The shortage or excess in the current account is governed by the finance from the capital account and vice versa.
3. **Finance account:** The funds that flow to and from the other countries through investments like real estate, foreign direct investments, business enterprises, etc., is recorded in this account. This account calculates the foreign proprietor of domestic assets and domestic proprietor of foreign assets, and analyses if it is acquiring or selling more assets like stocks, gold, equity, etc.

Importance of Balance of Payment

A balance of payment is an essential document or transaction in the finance department as it gives the status of a country and its economy. The importance of the balance of payment can be calculated from the following points:

- It examines the transaction of all the exports and imports of goods and services for a given period.
 - It helps the government to analyse the potential of a particular industry export growth and formulate policy to support that growth.
 - It gives the government a broad perspective on a different range of import and export tariffs. The government then takes measures to increase and decrease the tax to discourage import and encourage export, respectively, and be self-sufficient.
 - If the economy urges support in the mode of import, the government plans according to the BOP, and divert the cash flow and technology to the unfavourable sector of the economy, and seek future growth.
 - The balance of payment also indicates the government to detect the state of the economy, and plan expansion. Monetary and fiscal policy are established on the basis of balance of payment status of the country.
-