

## F. Distinguish between

### 1. Western Ghats

The Western Ghats (915 to 1,220 m high) known as Sahyadri in Maharashtra, are formed by the Nilgiri and the Anaimudi hills in Tamil Nadu, and the Cardamom hills in Kerala.

### 2. Western Coastal Plains

The Western Coastal Plains lying between the western ghats and the Arabian Sea stretch from Kutch in the north to Kanyakumari in the south. The western coast is known as the Gujarat Coast in Gujarat, the Konkan Coast in Maharashtra stretching from the Gulf of Khambat to Goa, and the Malabar Coast in Kerala stretching from Goa to Kanyakumari. The Malabar Coast has a number of short streams, lagoons and backwaters. The Konkan Coast is broader and the largest sea port of India, Mumbai is located here.

### 3. Rivers of the North

- (a) Snow fed or rain fed
- (b) They change their courses drastically, particularly after landslides or earthquakes or floods.
- (c) The drain areas which are geologically unstable form meanders.
- (d) Navigable in the middle and lower courses.
- (e) These rivers have developed vast fertile flood plains.

### 4. Lakshadweep Islands

Lakshadweep meaning a 'hundred thousand islands' is a group of 36 coral islands in the Arabian Sea, the west coast of Kerala. The islands with the total land area of 32 sq km form the smallest union territory of India. Ten of the islands are inhabited. Minicoy with an area of about 5 sq km is the largest island in the Lakshadweep group.

### Eastern Ghats

The Eastern Ghats, with an average height of about 610 m are lower in elevation and stretch from West Bengal in the north through Odisha and Andhra Pradesh to Tamil Nadu in the south. The Eastern Ghats are broken by valleys and they gently merge with the eastern coastal plains.

### Eastern Coastal Plains

The Eastern Coastal Plains lying between Bay of Bengal and Eastern Ghat are wider and more level than the western plains. It extends from the mouth of the Ganga to Kanyakumari. The northern half is called the Northern Circars, and the southern half is known as the Coromandel Coast in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. The coastal strip possesses the fertile deltas of the Kaveri, Krishna, Godavari and Mahanadi rivers. There are also several lakes on the eastern coast—Lake Chilka in Odisha and lakes Kollery and Pulicat in Andhra Pradesh.

### Rivers of the South

- (a) Only rain fed.
- (b) They flow through stable areas and do not change their course.
- (c) Flow through stable areas and do not form meanders.
- (d) Swift flowing rivers navigable in the lower course.
- (e) South Indian rivers develop only deltaic plains instead of flood plains.

### Andaman and Nicobar

- The Andaman and Nicobar archipelago is a string of 572 islands lying in the Bay of Bengal.
- Andaman and Nicobar Islands are separated by a sea known as the Ten Degree Channel.

6. (c)  
E. Long-answer questions:

1. India is located in the Northern and Eastern Hemisphere. The Tropic of Cancer ( $23.5^{\circ}\text{N}$  latitude) passes almost midway through the country. Its latitudinal extent is  $8^{\circ}4'\text{N}$  and  $37^{\circ}6'\text{N}$  and the longitudinal extent is  $68^{\circ}7'\text{E}$  and  $97^{\circ}25'\text{E}$ .
2. The Himalayas influence the climate of India—
  - (i) The Himalayas protect the Northern Plains from the bitterly cold winds of Central Asia during winter.
  - (ii) The rain bearing monsoon winds cause rainfall on the northern plains due to these mountains.
3. Many rivers like the Godavari, Krishna and Kaveri flow from the Western Ghats towards the Bay of Bengal as the slope of the Peninsular plateau is from west to east.
4. The Indian Desert is an area of Inland drainage as the rivers and streams do not have enough water to reach the sea and they end in the sand here. The rainfall is less in the region and rate of evaporation is high.
5. India is called a sub-continent because— India has common land boundaries with seven countries—Afghanistan and Pakistan to the north-west, China, Nepal and Bhutan to the north, and Bangladesh and Myanmar to the east. To the south, across the sea lies the island of Sri Lanka separated by the Palk Strait and the Maldives. The landmass comprising Afghanistan, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, and the Maldives is isolated in a remarkable way from the rest of Asia forming a sub-division of the continent. This landmass is known as the **Indian subcontinent**.