



## **Government of Tamilnadu**

### **Department of Employment and Training**

Course : TNPSC Group I Mains Material  
Subject : Geography  
Topic : Physical Features

#### **© Copyright**

The Department of Employment and Training has prepared the TNPSC Group-I Preliminary and Main Exam study material in the form of e-content for the benefit of Competitive Exam aspirants and it is being uploaded in this Virtual Learning Portal. This e-content study material is the sole property of the Department of Employment and Training. No one (either an individual or an institution) is allowed to make copy or reproduce the matter in any form. The trespassers will be prosecuted under the Indian Copyright Act.

It is a cost-free service provided to the job seekers who are preparing for the Competitive Exams.

**Commissioner,**

**Department of Employment and Training.**



# PHYSICAL FEATURES

## **Introduction:**

The majestic Himalayan peaks in the north, the beautiful beaches in the south, the great Indian desert in the west and the breathtaking natural heritage in the east make India a geographically vibrant, colourful and truly incredible country.

There is a varied nature of physiographic divisions in India. Though the country has many landforms based on the major differences, it is divided into the following five physiographic divisions:

1. **The Himalayan Mountains**
2. **The Great Northern Plains**
3. **The Peninsular plateau**
4. **Western Ghats and Eastern Ghats**
5. **The Indian Desert**
6. **The Coastal Plains**
7. **The Islands**

## **1. Himalayan Mountains**

### **Introduction:**

The Himalayan Mountains (Northern Mountains) consist of the youngest and the loftiest mountain chains in the world because they have been formed only few million years ago and also, they were formed because of the folding of the earth crust due to tectonic activity. It stretches for a distance of 2,500 km from the Indus gorge in the west to Brahmaputra gorge in the east. The width of the Northern Mountains varies from 500 km in Kashmir to 200 km in Arunachal Pradesh.

The term “Himalaya” is derived from Sanskrit. It means “**The Abode of Snow**”. The Northern Mountains that function as a great wall is grouped into three divisions.

1. **The Western Himalayas**
2. **The Central Himalayas**
3. **The Eastern Himalayas**

◆.....◆

## 1. The Western Himalayas

It is also known as Trans-Himalaya's. It lies to the north of the great Himalayan range. It lies in Jammu and Kashmir and Tibetan plateau. As its areal extent is more in Tibet, it is also known as Tibetan Himalayas.

The Trans-Himalayas are about 40 km wide in its eastern and western extremities and about 225 km wide in its central part. They contain the Tethys sediments. The rocks of this region contain fossils bearing marine sediments which are underlain by 'Tertiary granite'. It has partly metamorphosed sediments and constitutes the core of the Himalayan axis.

The prominent ranges of Trans Himalayas are Zaskar, Ladakh, Kailash, and Karakoram.

## 2. The Central Himalayas

The main divisions of the Himalayas are the

- i. Greater Himalayas,
- ii. the Lesser Himalayas and
- iii. the Siwaliks

### i. The Greater Himalayas or the Himadri

- The Greater Himalayas rise abruptly like a wall north of the Lesser Himalayas. The Greater Himalayas are about 25 km wide. Its average height is about 6,000m.
- The Greater Himalayas receive lesser rainfall as compared to the Lesser Himalayas and the Siwaliks. Physical weathering is less effective over the Greater Himalayas as compared to the other ranges.
- Almost all the lofty peaks of Himalayas are located in this range. The notable ones are Mt. Everest (8,848 m) and Kanchenjunga (8,586 m). Mt. Everest is located in Nepal and Kanchenjunga is located between Nepal and Sikkim.

- ◆.....◆
- This range is the most continuous of all ranges. It is region of permanent snow cover. So, it has many glaciers. **Gangothri, Yamunothri and Siachen** are some of them.

## **ii. The Lesser Himalayas or The Himachal**

- It is the middle range of Himalayas. Height of this range varies from 3, 700 to 4,500 m. Its width varies up to 80 km.
- The major rocks of this range are slate, limestone and quartzite. This region is subjected to extensive erosion due to heavy rainfall, deforestation and urbanization.
- Pir Panjal, Dhauladhar and Mahabharat are the mountain ranges found in this part. Major hill stations of the Himalayas are located in this range. **Shimla, Mussourie, Nainital, Almora, Ranikhet and Darjeeling**

## **iii. The Siwaliks or Outer Himalayas**

- The Siwaliks extend from Jammu and Kashmir to Assam. It is partly made by the debris brought by the Himalayan rivers. The altitude varying between 900-1100 metres elevation of this range is 1300 m. The width of Siwaliks vary from 10 km in the east to 50 km in the west. It is the most discontinuous range
- The longitudinal valleys found between the Siwaliks and the Lesser Himalayas are called Duns in the west and Duars in the east. These are the ideal sites for the development of settlements in this region.

## **3. The Eastern Himalayas or The Purvanchal**

1. These are the eastern off-shoot of Himalayas. It extended in the north-eastern states of India.
2. Most of these hills are located along the border of India and Myanmar while others are inside India.

- ◆.....◆
3. Dafla Hills, Abor Hills, Mishmi Hills, Patkai Bum Hills, Naga Hills, Manipur Hills, Mizo Hills, Tripura Hills, Mikir Hills, Garo Hills, Khasi Hills and Jaintia Hills are the hills which are collectively known as **Purvanchal Hills**.

## **1. Importance of Himalayas**

- Himalayas blocks southwest monsoon winds and causes heavy rainfall to north India.
- It forms a natural barrier to the subcontinent.
- It is the source for many perennial rivers like Indus, Ganges, Brahmaputra etc.
- The Northern Mountains are described as the paradise of tourists due to its natural beauty.
- Many hill stations and pilgrim centres like Amarnath, Kedarnath, Badrinath and Vaishnavi Devi temples are situated here.
- It provides raw material for many forest-based industries.
- It prevents the cold winds blowing from the central Asia and protects India from severe cold.
- Himalayas are renowned for the rich biodiversity.

## **2. The Great Northern Plains**

### **Introduction:**

- Plains are a flat and relatively low-lying lands. Plains are usually less than 200 metre above sea level. Sometimes they may be rolling or undulating. Most plains are formed by rivers and their tributaries and distributaries. These plains are used extensively for agriculture due to the availability of water and fertile soil.
- The fertile land extending across seven north Indian states forms the Great Northern Plains. This extensive plain lies to the south of the northern

◆.....◆

mountains. This plain is one of the most extensive stretches of the alluvium in the world and is deposited by the rivers Indus, Ganga, Brahmaputra and their tributaries. The length of the plain is about 2,400 km and the width varies from 240 to 320 km. Its width increases from east to west. It covers an area of over 7 lakhs sq.km.

- The Great Plains of India is remarkably a homogeneous surface with an imperceptible slope. They are formed mostly by the depositional process of the Himalayan and Vindhyan rivers.
- These rivers deposit enormous quantity of sediments deposited along the foot hills and flood plains.

The important characteristics features of sediment deposition in the plains areas as follows:

**a) The Bhabar Plain**

This plain is made up of gravels and unassorted sediments deposited by the Himalayan rivers. The porosity of this plain is so high that most of the small streams flow over this region disappear.

It lies to the south of the Siwalik from west to east (Jammu Division to Assam). Its width varies from 8 to 15 km. It is wider in the western plains (Jammu Division) than in the east (Assam).

This plain is not suitable for cultivation, only big trees with large roots thrive in this region.

**b) The Tarai Tract**

It is a zone of excessive dampness, thick forests and rich wild life. This tract lies to the south of Bhabar plains. The width of this belt is 15-30 km. The Tarai is wider in the eastern parts of the Great Plains, especially in Brahmaputra Valley due to heavy rainfall. In many states, the Tarai forests have been cleared for cultivation.



◆.....◆

**c) The Bhangar Plains**

The Bhangar represent the upland alluvial tracts of the Great Plains of India, formed by the older alluviums. The Bhangar land lies above the flood limits of the rivers. This soil is dark in colour, rich in humus content, well drained and useful for agriculture.

**d) The Khadar Plains**

The new alluvium tracts along the courses of the rivers are known as the 'Khadar' or 'BET lands'. The Khadar tracts are enriched by fresh deposits of silt every year during rainy seasons. The Khadar land consists of sand, silt, clay and mud. It is highly fertile soil.

**e) Delta Plains**

The deltaic plain is an extension of the Khadar land. It covers about 1.9 lakh sq.km in the lower reaches of the Ganga River. It is an area of deposition as the river flows in this tract sluggishly

The deltaic plain consists mainly of old mud, new mud and marsh. In the delta region, the uplands are called '**Chars**' while the marshy areas are called '**Bils**'.

**On the basis of deposition of sediments by various rivers and topographical characteristics, the Northern Plains of India is divided into the following four major regions:**

**a) Rajasthan Plains:** It is located to the west of Aravalli range. It covers an area of about 1,75,000 sq.km. Rajasthan plain is formed by the deposition of the river Luni and the long vanished river Saraswathi. There are several salt lakes in Rajasthan. The Sambhar Salt Lake (Pushkar Lake) near Jaipur is the prominent one.

**b) Punjab - Haryana Plains:** It lies to the north-east of the Great Indian Desert. This plain is found over an area of about 1.75 lakh sq.km. The Punjab - Haryana plains are formed by the deposition of the rivers Sutlej,



◆.....◆  
Beas and Ravi. This plain acts as water - divide (doab). The two major watershed it divides are Yamuna – Sutlej and Ganga – Yamuna.

**c) Ganga Plains:** It extends from the Yamuna River in the west to Bangladesh in the east. The total area covered by this plain is about 3.75 sq.km. River Ganga and its tributaries such as Ghaghra, Gandak, Kosi, Yamuna, Chambal, Betwa etc. constitute this plain by their sediments and make a great plain in India. It is the largest plain of India. The general slope of the entire plain (upper, middle and lower Ganga plains) is towards east and south-east.

**d) Brahmaputra Plains:** It is located mainly in the state of Assam. It is a low - level plain located in the eastern part of the Great Plains of India and is formed by the deposits of river Brahmaputra. It covers an area of about 56,275 sq.km. These plains create alluvial fans and marshy tracts.

### **3. The Peninsular Plateaus**

#### **Introduction:**

- Plateaus are the elevated portions of the Earth that have flat surfaces bounded by steep slopes. The elevation of plateaus may be a few hundred metre or several thousand metre. The peninsular plateau region lies to the south of the Great Northern Plains. This is the largest physiographic division of our country. It covers an area of about 16 lakhs sq.km (about half of the total area of the country).
- It is an old rocky plateau region. The topography consists of a series of plateaus and hill ranges interspersed with river valleys.

#### **Boundaries:**

- Aravalli hills mark the north-western boundary of the plateau region. Its northern and north-eastern boundaries are marked by the Bundelkhand upland, Kaimur and Rajmahal hills. The Western Ghats and the Eastern Ghats mark the western and eastern boundaries respectively.

- ◆.....◆
- The altitude of a large portion of the plateau is more than 600 m from mean sea level. The peak of Anaimudi is the highest point in the plateau. Its height is 2,695 m and is located in Anaimalai.
  - The general slope of this plateau is towards east. The Great Plateau is a part of the Gondwana (very ancient one) land mass. Due to the old age, the rivers in this region attained their base level and developed broad and shallow valleys
  - The river Narmada divides the plateau region of India broadly into two parts.
  - The region lying to the north of the Narmada is called **the Central Highlands** and the region lying to the south of Narmada is called **the Deccan Plateau**.

#### **a) Central Highlands**

- The Central Highlands extend between the river Narmada and the Northern Great Plains. The Aravallis form the west and north western edge of the Central Highlands.
- These hills extend from Gujarat, through Rajasthan to Delhi in the northwesterly direction for a distance of about 700 km. The height of these hills is about 1,500 m in southwest while near Delhi the height is hardly 400 m. Gurushikhar with 1,722 m is the highest peak of this range.
- The Western part of the Central Highland is known as the Malwa Plateau. It lies to the southeast of Aravalli's and to the north of Vindhya Range. The rivers Chambal, Betwa and Ken drain the Malwa Plateau before they join the river Yamuna. The part of the Central Highlands which extends to the east of Malwa Plateau is known as Bundelkhand and its further extension is known as Bagelkhand.
- The eastern part of the Central High lands which lies in the north-eastern part of the Indian Plateau is known as Chhota-Nagpur Plateau. It

◆.....◆

covers much of Jharkhand, adjacent parts of Odisha, West Bengal, Bihar and Chhattisgarh. This region is very rich in mineral resources particularly iron ore and coal

#### **b) Deccan Plateau**

- This physiographic division is the largest part of the plateau region of India. The shape of this plateau is roughly triangular. One of the sides of this triangle is marked by the line joining Kanyakumari with Rajmahal Hills and this line passes through the Eastern Ghats. The second arm is marked by the Satpura Range, Mahadeo Hills, Maikal Range and the Rajmahal Hills. The third arm is marked by the Western Ghats.
- The area of this Plateau is about 7 lakh sq km and the height ranges from 500 to 1000 m above sea level.

#### **4. Western Ghats and Eastern Ghats:**

##### **Western Ghats**

- Western Ghats are continuous range of hills running in the North-South direction and form the western edge of the Deccan plateau. It runs parallel to the Arabian Sea coast.
- Its extent is about 1600 km from the Tapti valley in the north up to Kanyakumari in the south. The Western Ghats rise abruptly from the Western coastal plain. That is why on the western side, the rivers flow swiftly and make a number of waterfalls like the Jog falls (270 mts) on the Sharavati River.
- The slope is gentle towards the eastern side of the Western Ghats and the main rivers like the Godavari, Krishna and Kaveri rise from the eastern slopes and flow east wards and fall into the Bay of Bengal.
- The northern part of this range is called as Sahyadris. The height of the Sahyadris increases from north to south.

- ThalGhat, BhorGhat and PalGhat are the three important passes in the Western Ghats, which provide passage for roads and railways, between the Konkan plains in the west and the Deccan Plateau in the east.
- Anaimudi is a sort of tri-junction of the Anaimalai Range, the Cardamom Hills and then Palani Hills. Kodaikanal is a beautiful hill resort situated on the Palani Hills. The western Ghats terminate about 20 km north of cape comorin.
- Eastern Ghats and Western Ghats join at the Nilgris hills and the highest point is Doddabetta (2637m). 'Udhagamandalam', a hill station, lies at the foot of the Doddabetta in the Nilgiris.

### **Eastern Ghats**

- Eastern Ghats run from southwest to northeast form the eastern edge of this Plateau. The Eastern Ghats are not continuous like the Western Ghats They run almost parallel to the East coast. This range is also called as Poorvadri. These are a series of intersected hills, lying between the Mahanadhi River in Orissa and the Vaigai river in Tamil Nadu.
- The rivers of Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, Pennar and Kaveri have dissected this range at many places.
- The Godavari valley divides the Eastern Ghats into the northern and southern parts. The northern part is about 200 km wide, while the southern part is only 100 km wide. 'Mahendra Giri' (1501m) is the highest peak in the northern part. In the southern part, the 'Nallamalai range' is the most prominent. It is composed of quartz and slate.
- The hills and plateaus in the southern part have low altitude further south the Eastern Ghats merge with the western Ghats Nilgiris.
- The peninsular plateau has a number of hill stations such as Udagamandalam (Ooty), Kodaikanal, Yercaud, Pachmarghi (MP), Mahabaleswar, etc.

## 5. The Indian Desert

- The Thar desert, also known as the Great Indian desert is a large arid region in the north western part of the Indian subcontinent that covers an area of 2,00,000 kms and forms a natural boundary between India and Pakistan. It is the world 7<sup>th</sup> largest desert, and world 9<sup>th</sup> largest sub tropical desert located Western part of the India. The desert lies in the western part of the Aravalli range and covers 2/3 of Rajasthan state.
- There are two major divisions in the Thar desert. They are known as the Actual desert region (Marusthali) and the semi desert region (Bhangar). Many different types of sand dunes and salt lakes (Dhands) are seen here.

## 6. The Coastal Plains

### Introduction:

The Peninsular Plateau of India is flanked by narrow coastal plains of varied width from north to south, known as the Western Coastal Plains and the Eastern Coastal Plains.

They were formed by the depositional action of the rivers and the erosional and depositional actions of the sea-waves.

The Indian coastal plains are divided into the following two divisions:

1. The Western Coastal Plains and
2. The Eastern Coastal Plains.

### 1. The Western Coastal Plain

- It lies between the Western Ghats and the Arabian Sea. It extends from Rann of kutch in the north to Kanyakumari in the south and its width varies from 10 to 80 km.
- It is mainly characterised by sandy beaches, coastal sand dunes, mud flats, lagoons, estuary, laterite platforms and residual hills.
- The northern part of the West Coastal Plain is known as Konkan Plain. The middle part of this plain is known as Kanara.

- The southern part of the plain is known as Malabar coast which is about 550 km long and 20-100 km wide. This part of the coast is characterized by sand dunes.
- Along the coast, there are numerous shallow lagoons and backwaters called **Kayals** and **Teris**. **Vembanad** is a famous back water lake found in this region.

## 2. The Eastern Coastal Plain

- It lies between the Eastern Ghats and the Bay of Bengal and, stretches along the states of West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.
- These plains are formed by the alluvial fillings of the littoral zone by the east flowing rivers of India. The coastal plain consists mainly of the recent alluvial deposits. This coastal plain has a regular shoreline with well-defined beaches.
- The coastal plain between Mahanadi and Krishna river is known as the Northern Circars and the southern part lies between Krishna and Kaveri rivers is called Coromandal coast.
- The **Marina beach** on this coast in Chennai and it is the second longest beach in the world.
- Among the back water lakes of this coast, lake **Chilka** (Odisha) is the largest lake in India located to the southwest of the Mahanadi delta, the **Kolleru Lake** which lies between the deltas of Godavari and Krishna and the **Pulicat Lake** lies in the border of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu are the well known lakes in the east coastal plain.

## 7. The Islands

### Introduction:

India has two major island groups namely Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep. The former group consists of 572 islands and are located in Bay of Bengal, and the later one has 27 islands and are located in Arabian Sea.

The islands of Andaman and Nicobar are largely tectonic and volcanic origin.

While the islands of the Arabian Sea are mainly coral origin.



### a) Andaman and Nicobar Islands

- These islands are located in an elevated portion of the submarine mountains. Since these islands lie close to the equator, the climate remains hot and wet throughout the year and has dense forests.
- The area of the island group is about 8,249 sq.km.
- The entire group of islands is divided into two. They are Andaman in the north and the Nicobar in the south.
- These island groups are of great strategic importance for the country. Port Blair is the administrative capital of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

The **Ten Degree Channel** separates Andaman from Nicobar group. The southernmost tip, the **Indira Point** is a part of Nicobar Island.

### b) Lakshadweep Islands

- This is a small group of coral islands located off the west coast of India. It covers an area of 32 sq. km. Kavaratti is its administrative capital. Lakshadweep islands are separated from the Maldivian Islands by the Eight Degree Channel.
- The uninhabited “**Pitt Island**” of this group has a bird sanctuary. Earlier, it had three divisions namely Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi. It was named as Lakshadweep in 1973.

### c) Offshore Islands

Besides the two group of islands, India has a number of islands along the Western Coast, Eastern Coast, in the delta region of Ganga and in the Gulf of Mannar. Many of these islands are uninhabited and are administered by the adjacent states



## **Significance of Indian physiography**

### **Northern Mountains**

The presence of the Himalayas in north prevents southwest monsoon winds and cause rainfall and snowfall. If this mountain is absent, a major part of the Indian sub-continent would have been a dry desert.

Himalayas forms a natural boundary for the sub-continent. It is permanently frozen and is a barrier to invasion.

Himalayas forms the source of many perennial rivers like the Ganga and Brahmaputra.

Many hill stations and pilgrimage centres are found in the Himalayas.

It provides raw materials for forest based industries.

### **Northern Plains**

The northern plains of India are of great economic and social significance due to their fertile alluvial soils, flat level land, slow moving perennial rivers and a favourable climate, agriculture and trade have been developed.

### **Peninsular Plateau**

Peninsular Plateau is rich in mineral resources and has huge reserves of Iron, manganese, Copper, Bauxite Mica, Chromium, Limestone etc. Coastal Plains. A large number of big and small ports have been developed all along the coastal areas. These ports play an important role in the growth of national and international trade.

## **Physiography of Tamilnadu:**

### **Introduction:**

Tamil Nadu has a unique physiography. The hills of the Eastern and Western Ghats surround Tamil Nadu to the Northwest and West, the Bay of Bengal is found to the East and the Indian Ocean to the South. In general, the physiography of Tamil Nadu is a high land which has uneroded, western ghats on the west and lo lying coastal and river plains on the east.

◆.....◆

Geographically Tamil Nadu may be divided into four physical divisions.

1. The Hilly region (Western Ghats and Eastern Ghats).
2. The Plateau.
3. The Plain and
4. The Coastline

### **The Hilly regions of Tamil Nadu**

The Western Ghats enters the state through the Nilgiris District and runs up to Kanyakumari district. The Western hilly region is much more complex than the Eastern Ghats. Its average height is from 1000 m to 1500m.

The Western Ghats has mountain peaks namely **Doddabetta (2637m)** and **Mukuruthi (2540 m)**. In the north west of Western Ghats lies the Nilgiri highland region at a height of above 2500 m. In this region, there are few peaks found at a height ranging from 1800 m to 2400 m. The highest peak of Tamil Nadu is Doddabetta, Ooty, Queen of hill station is situated in Nilgiris.

From the Nilgiris of Tamilnadu and Anaimalai hills of Kerala, an offshoot runs at a height of 1500 m to 2000 m in the east. These are called **Palani hills**.

To the south of the Palani hills there are two other ranges namely, **Varshanadu** and **Andipatti** hills running parallel to the Cardamom hills. Though the Western Ghats is a continuous range, It has a gap of 25 km at Palghat. To the south of Palghat gap, hills such as Andipatti, Elamalai and Agathiyamalai are found. Kambam valley is between Thekkadi hills, Varshanadu hills and Kodaikanal hills. This valley is considered as the green valley of Tamil Nadu. The gap in between Varshanadu hills and Agathiyamalai is called the **Shenkottai pass**.

The Tamil Nadu hills separating, the plains and the plateaus have two well marked passes, namely, the **Attur pass** in the south and the **Chengam pass** in the north. This pass links the Cuddalore and Villupuram district in the plain with

◆.....◆  
the Salem district on the plateau. The Palakkad gap and Shenkottai gap are the only breaks in the long chain of hills that border Tamil Nadu on the west.

The Eastern Ghats are not continuous when compared to the Western Ghats. They are dissected into isolated hill ranges extending from northeast to southwest. Through the districts of Vellore, Dharmapuri and Erode. The average elevation ranges from 1100 m to 1600 m. These hillocks are called by different names in different areas, such as;

1. Javadi Hills and Elagiri Hills in Vellore District;
2. Shervarayan in Salem District;
3. Kalvarayan in Villupuram District;
4. Pachaimalai in Thiruchirapalli District;
5. Kolli hills in Namakkal District;
6. Chitteri hills are in both Dharmapuri and Salem Districts;
7. Gingee hills in Villupuram District;

### **Plateau of Tamil Nadu**

The Eastern and Western Ghats meet at the Nilgiris plateau. Four km from this plateau, it slopes gently downwards to about 1,800 m towards Coimbatore. It extends from the Nilgiris to Dharmapuri plateau or Baramahal plateau and lies to the west of Shervaroy uplands. This plateau is found with extreme abruptness on all sides.

The Baramahal plateau in Dharmapuri district is at an elevation of 300 to 700 m which merges with the Mysore plateau in the west. The elevation of the plateau increases from east (120 m) to west (300 to 450m). Plateaus of Tamil Nadu can be grouped into two as Coimbatore plateau and Madurai plateau.

In between the plateaus isolated hills are also seen. One such isolated hills is Chennimalai of Erode district.

## **Plains of Tamil Nadu**

Plains of Tamil Nadu can be classified into two as coastal plains and rivers plains.

The coastal plains of Tamil Nadu extend to a length of 1000 km from Pulicat lake in the North to Kanyakumari in the South and have an average height of 50 metres. The notable beaches found here are the Marina and Rameswaram beach.

### **Marina Beach**

Marina beach is the second longest beach in the world. It extends upto a distance of 13 km and it is one of the major tourist attractions of Chennai.

### **Rameswaram Beach**

The beach of Rameswaram is famous for its beautiful coastal features. The sea waves rise to a maximum height of only 3 cm and the view looks a very big river.

The coastal plains of Thiruvallur, Kancheepuram, Cuddalore and Villupuram are together known as the Cholamandalam plains.

The river plains in Tamil Nadu are formed by the rivers Palar, Cheyyar, Pennar and Vellar in the north; Kaveri and its tributaries in the central region, Vaigai, Vaippar and Thamirabarani in the south.

## **Questions**

1. Explain about the Indian Coastal Plains?
2. Mention some of the important plains of India. Explain it.
3. Describe the Physiography of Tamil Nadu.