

Physical Geography of Tamil Nadu

I Choose the correct answer

1. The latitudinal extent of Tamil Nadu is

- a) **8°4'N to 13°35'N**
- b) 8°5'S to 13°35'S
- c) 8°0'N to 13°5'N
- d) 8°0'S to 13°05'S

2. The longitudinal extent of Tamil Nadu is

- a) **76°18' E to 80°20'E**
- b) 76°18' W to 80°20'W
- c) 86°18' E to 10°20'E
- d) 86°18' W to 10°20'W

3. The highest peak in Tamil Nadu is

- a) Anaimudi
- b) **Doddabetta**
- c) Mahendragiri
- d) Servarayan

4. Which of the following passes is not located in the Western Ghats of Tamil Nadu?

- a) Palghat
- b) Shencottah
- c) **Bhorghat**
- d) Achankoil

5. Which one of the following rivers is flow into the Arabian Sea?

- a) **Periyar**
- b) Cauvery
- c) Chittar
- d) Bhavani

6. The district with largest mangrove forest cover in Tamil Nadu is

- a) Ramanathapuram
- b) Nagapattinam
- c) **Cuddalore**
- d) Theni

7. Retreating monsoon wind picks up moisture from

- a) Arabian sea
- b) **Bay of Bengal**
- c) Indian Ocean
- d) Timor sea

8. Which of the following district is affected by sand dunes to a large extent?

- a) **Theni**
- b) Madurai
- c) Thanjavur
- d) Ramanathapuram

9. The district which has the largest forest cover in Tamil Nadu is

a) **Dharmapuri**

- b) Vellore
- c) Dindigul
- d) Erode

II Fill in the blanks

1. The plateau which lies between the Nilgiris and Dharmapuri districts is

COIMBATORE PLATEAU

2. **SOLAIKARADU (1620 M)** is the highest peak in the southernmost part of the Eastern Ghats.

3. The riverine Island of Srirangam is located between **COLEROON or KOLLIDAM and CAUVERY** branches of cauvery.

4. **VARAIYADU** is the Tamil Nadu state animal.

III Match the following

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. Winter season | - | Pre-monsoon |
| 2. Summer season | - | June to September |
| 3. Southwest monsoon | - | March to May |
| 4. North east monsoon | - | January and February |
| 5. Mango Shower | - | October to December |

- | | | |
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IV Assertion type Question

1. **Assertion (A)** : Tamil Nadu does not receive much rainfall from southwest monsoon.

Reason (R) : It is situated in the rain shadow area of the Western Ghats.

- a) **Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) explains (A).**
- b) Both (A) and (R) are true but, (R) does not explain (A).
- c) (A) is true but, (R) is false.
- d) (R) is true but, (A) is false.

V Answer the following in brief

1. State the boundaries of Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu is bounded by the Bay of Bengal in the east, Kerala in the west, Andhra Pradesh in the north, Karnataka in the northwest and Indian Ocean in the south.

2. What is 'Teri'?

The sand dunes formed along the coast of Ramanathapuram and Thoothukudi districts are called **Teri**

3. How is coastal plain formed?

It is formed by the river deposits that flow towards east drain in the Bay of Bengal.

4. Name the major islands of Tamil Nadu.

Pamban, Hare, Krusadai, Nallathanni Theevu, Pullivasal, Srirangam, Upputanni, Island Grounds, Kattupalli Island, Quibble Island and Vivekananda Rock Memorial

5. Name the tributaries of river Thamirabarani.

Karaiyar, Servalar, Manimuthar, Gadanathi, Pachaiyar, Chittar and Ramanathi.

6. Define : Disaster Risk Reduction.

According to United Nations office for Disaster Risk Reduction, Disaster Risk Reduction(UNDRR) is the concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through systematic efforts to analyse and reduce the causal factors of disasters.

7. During cyclone, how does the Meteorological department warn the fishermen?

Fishermen should keep a radio set with extra batteries handy; keep boats and rafts tied up safely and don't venture out in the sea.

VI Distinguish between the following

1. Thamiraparani and Cauvery

Sl.No	Thamiraparani	Cauvery
1	Originates at Talacauvery in the Brahmagiri hills of Kodagu(coorg) district of Karnataka in the Western Ghats.	Originates from a peak in Pothigai hills on the Western Ghats above Papanasam in the Ambasamudram taluk.
2	It is non-perennial river.	It is perennial river.
3	Bhavani, Noyyal and Amaravathi are its main tributaries.	Karaiyar, Servalar, Manimuthar, Gadanathi, Pachaiyar, Chittar and Ramanathi are its main tributaries.

VII Give reasons for the following

1. Eastern Ghats are not a continuous range.

It is a discontinuous and irregular one, because it is dissected at many places by the rivers, which drain into the Bay of Bengal.

2. Tamil Nadu receives low rainfall during southwest monsoon.

During this season, Tamil Nadu is located in the rain shadow region for the wind, which blows from the Arabian Sea. As a result, Tamil Nadu receives only a meagre rainfall from this monsoon.

3. Cuddalore is a multiprone disaster zone.

Cuddalore is a multiprone disaster zone because it is severely affected by all the disaster like regular cyclone, flood and tsunami.

VIII Answer the following in a paragraph

1. Describe the nature of the plateau region of Tamil Nadu.

Plateaus of Tamil Nadu are located between the Western Ghats and the Eastern Ghats. It is roughly triangular in shape and covers an area of about 60,000 sq.km.

Bharamahal plateau:

It is a part of the Mysore plateau situated in the north-western part of Tamil Nadu. Its height ranges from 350 to 710 metres. Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri districts are located in this region.

Coimbatore plateau:

It lies between the Nilgiris and Dharmapuri districts. Its height varies from 150 to 450 metres. This region includes Salem, Coimbatore and Erode districts. Moyar river separates this plateau from the Mysore plateau. Rivers like Bhavani, Noyyal and Amaravathi, which originate from Western Ghats, form valleys in this region. Many intermontane plateaus are found in the region of the Nilgiris. Sigur plateau is one such plateau.

Madurai plateau:

It is found in Madurai district extends up to the foothills of the Western Ghats. Vaigai and Thamirabarani basins are located in this zone

2. Write an account on river Cauvery.

1. The river Cauvery originates at Talacauvery in the Brahmagiri hills of Kodagu(coorg) district of Karnataka in the Western Ghats.
2. Total length of Cauvery river is 805 km. About 416 km of its course falls in Tamil Nadu.
3. It forms Hogenakkal waterfalls in Dharmapuri district.

4. Mettur Dam, also called as the Stanley Reservoir, is located across this river in Salem district.

5. Its main tributaries are Bhavani, Noyyal and Amaravathi .

6. Amaravathi, confluence the river on the right bank at Thirumukkudal 10 km from Karur. The river is wider in this region, where it is called as 'Agandra Cauvery'.

7. In Tiruchirappalli district, the river branches into two parts. The northern branch is called Coleroon or Kollidam and the southern branch remains Cauvery and rejoins again after 16 km from '**Srirangam Island**'.

7. The Grand Anaicut, also called as Kallanai was built across the river Cauvery.

8. The network of distributaries within the delta of Cauvery in the coast is called as the '**Garden of Southern India**'.

9. It merges into Bay of Bengal to the south of Cuddalore.

3. Explain the characteristic features of summer and winter seasons of Tamil Nadu.

Winter Season

1. Period : January and February.

2. Tamil Nadu and India on the whole receive slanting rays from the sun.

3. The weather is slightly cooler during these months, temperature in Tamil Nadu plain varies from 15°C to 25°C and in the hill stations, it drops below 5°C occasionally. Some valleys in the Nilgiris record even 0°C.

4. This drop in temperature leads to the formation of thick mist and frost.

5. This season is practically dry.

Summer Season

1. Period: March, April and May.

2. Tamil Nadu and India on the whole receive vertical sun's rays from the sun. Thus there is a 3. Steady rise in temperature from the equator, in Tamil Nadu located to the south of Tropic of Cancer, experiences high temperature, the temperature varies from 30°C to more than 0°C. 4. In this season particularly in the month of May, southern part of the state receives some rainfall from pre-monsoon showers (Mango/Blossom showers) and some parts experience convectional rainfall

4. Bring out the types and distribution of soils in Tamil Nadu.

The soils in Tamil Nadu are broadly classified into five types according to their characteristics. They are

1. Alluvial soil,

2. Black soil,

3. Red soil,

4. Laterite soil,

5. Saline soil.

Distribution:

Alluvial Soil: Districts of Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Villupuram, Cuddalore, Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari.

Black Soil: Districts of Coimbatore, Madurai, Virudhunagar, Tirunelveli and Thoothukudi.

Red Soil: It is dominantly found in Sivagangai and Ramanathapuram districts along with other parts of State.

Laterite Soil: Parts of Kancheepuram, Tiruvallur and Thanjavur districts and some patches over the mountainous region in the Nilgiris.

Saline Soil: It is confined to the Coromandel coast. Vedaranyam has a pocket of saline soil.

5. What are the Risk reduction measures taken before and after cyclone.

Risk Reduction Measures

Before:

1. Ignore rumours, stay calm, don't be panic;
2. Keep your mobile phones charged to ensure connectivity; use sms; listen to radio; watch TV; read newspapers for weather updates.
3. Keep your documents and valuables in water proof containers;
4. Prepare an emergency kits with essential items for survival;
5. Secure your house; carry out repairs;
6. Don't leave sharp objects loose;
7. Untie cattle/animals for their safety.
8. Fishermen should keep a radio set with extra batteries handy; keep boats and rafts tied up safely and don't venture out in the sea.

After:

1. Those who shifted to the cyclone centre must remain there till instructions are received;
2. Strictly avoid loose electrical wires after the cyclone;
3. Beware of snakes and other animals immediately after the cyclone;
4. Clear debris and carcasses from/near the premise after the cyclone and report losses truthfully and accurately to the authorities