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Tender Heart High School, 15/7/24
Sector 33B, Chandigarh
Class IV

Subject:- Social Studies

Teacher:- Mili Bhatnagar

Chapter 10 India - Physical Divisions

Good Morning Students!

We know that India is a vast country and it has all the physical features (major) of the Earth. In this chapter we will study about six geographical regions of India.

Northern Mountains:- The Himalayas are young fold mountains that stretch over the northern borders of India. The word 'Himalaya' means the 'abode of snow'. Some of the world's highest mountain peaks are located in the Northern Mountain region. The highest peak, that is Mount Everest is in Nepal. The Himalayas can be divided into three parallel ranges. They are:-

1. Greater Himalayas (Himadri)
2. Middle Himalayas (Himachal)
3. Lower Himalayas (Shivaliks)

The Himadri is the uppermost range of the Himalayas. It is a continuous range of snow capped mountains. Many glaciers and important rivers originate in the Himalayas.

The range that lies south of the Himadri is called Himachal. The height of the mountains in the Middle Himalayas is lower than the Greater Himalayas. Hill stations like Shimla,

Social StudiesClass IVChapter 10
Mili Bhatnagar

Nainital, Mussoorie, Darjeeling and Almora are all located here. The Middle Himalayas have thick forests cover of pine, oak, fir and deodar trees.

The Shivaliks lie to the south of the Himachal. The hill slopes here are covered with thick green forests which are home to wild animals. This region is more populated than the Greater and the Middle Himalayas.

Importance of the Himalayas

1. The Himalayas act as a natural boundary. They protect the country from external invasions.
2. The Himalayas play an important role in influencing climate of India as they do not allow cold winds from Central Asia to enter India.
3. The Himalayas provide valuable forest products like timber, medicines, herbs, etc.
4. The water that melts from the Himalayan glaciers forms rivers in the plains and make the region fertile.

2. The Northern Plains is a vast area of flat fertile land that lies between the Himalayas and the Deccan Plateau. It is formed by the deposits brought in by three major rivers and their tributaries. These plains are rich in alluvial soil. The Northern Plains are the most productive regions of India because

15/7/24

Social StudiesClass IVChapter 10
Mili Bhatnagar

of fertile soil, adequate water supply and favourable climatic conditions.

Importance of the Northern Plains

1. It has fertile soil which is best suited for the cultivation of crops like wheat, rice, sugarcane, etc.
2. The Northern Plains are home to millions of people in our country.
3. Since the land is flat and levelled here the roads and railways are well-developed, connectivity of the area is good.
4. The Northern Plains has many well-developed industries like iron and steel, sugar, etc.

The Desert:- An area that receives very little or no rainfall is called a desert. In India large parts of the State of Rajasthan are covered with desert in terms of area. The desert region has mainly hot and dry climate throughout the year. Summers are hot while some summer nights are cool. In winters, the nights are more cool than the days. Plants that need less water to grow like cactus and acacia grow here. In a desert, winds blow away and shift sand from one place to another to form small mounds called sand dunes.

In the next lecture we will study about the other three geographical regions of India.