

Along the beautiful Coastlines....

1. What is the total length of the Indian coastline?

About 6100 km

2. Deltas are commonly formed along the East coastal plain but not along the West coastal plain. Why is it so?

Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna and Kaveri are the longest peninsular rivers. They flow to the East and join the Bay of Bengal. These rivers carry sediments in large scale. These sediments are deposited in the eastern coast and deltas are formed. The rivers that flow to the west are shortest rivers and they join the Arabian Sea. These rivers carry only very little amount of sediments and they are deposited in the Arabian Sea. Ocean currents carry these sediments so no deltas are formed in the western coast.

Human life along the Coasts

Analyse the human life along the coasts and prepare note.

- Fishing is the main occupation of the people in the coastal plains.
- Tourism also has great possibilities here.
- Rice and coconut are the major agricultural crops along the west coast.
- Rice is extensively cultivated in the basin of the Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna and Kaveri along the east coast.

To Our Own Islands

1. The Lakshadweep islands are a part of India. What are the different geographic features of that island group?

The Lakshadweep islands are situated in the Arabian Sea at a distance of about 300 kilometres off shore from Kochi. There are 36 islands in this island group, of which only 11 are inhabited. Bangaram, Kadamath, Minicoy, Kavarathi, Agathi, Androth, Kalpeni, Aminidivi, Chethalath, Bithra and Kiltan are the major islands. Kavarathi is the capital of Lakshadweep.

Lagoons, sandy beaches and coral reefs are the specialities of the Lakshadweep island group. People depend largely on ocean for their sustenance as agriculture is sparse here. Fishing and tourism are the major sources of income.

2. Name the island group belonging to India situated in the Bay of Bengal. Explain their geographical features.

The Andaman and Nicobar islands included about 200 islands of Andaman group and 19 islands of Nicobar group. Most of these islands are not inhabited. Many of them have dense forests. The only volcano in India is situated in the Barren Island here. Port Blair is the capital of Andaman and Nicobar islands. The Indira Point at the southern most tip of the Nicobar islands is considered as the southern end of India.