

The Northern Plains and Peninsular Plateau

Chapter 7: Physical Features of India · Topic 2

Key Concept

The Northern Plains, formed by the Indus, Ganga, and Brahmaputra rivers depositing fertile alluvial soil, are among the most densely populated and agriculturally productive regions in the world.

The Peninsular Plateau, one of the oldest landmasses on Earth, consists of ancient rocks and is rich in minerals like iron ore, coal, and bauxite.

The plateau is divided by hill ranges like the Vindhya and Satpura, and includes regions like the Deccan Plateau, known for its black soil ideal for cotton cultivation.

While the Northern Plains support intensive farming due to fertile soil and flat land, the Peninsular Plateau's mineral wealth supports mining and industrial development.

Quick Revision Notes

- The Northern Plains are formed by river-deposited alluvial soil.
- Key rivers include the Indus, Ganga and Brahmaputra.
- The Northern Plains are densely populated and fertile.
- The Peninsular Plateau is one of the oldest landmasses.
- The plateau is rich in minerals like iron ore and coal.
- The Vindhya and Satpura ranges divide the plateau.
- The Deccan Plateau has black soil good for cotton.
- The plateau supports mining and industry.

Practice Questions

- 1 Compare the Northern Plains and Peninsular Plateau.
- 2 Research why the Northern Plains are densely populated.
- 3 Discuss the mineral resources found in the Peninsular Plateau.
- 4 Explain why black soil suits cotton farming.
- 5 Locate the Vindhya and Satpura ranges on a map.
- 6 Discuss how geography influences farming and mining in India.