

Factors Affecting India's Climate

Chapter 3: Climates of India · Topic 1

Key Concept

India's latitude means it lies mostly in the tropical zone, leading to generally warm temperatures, though areas near the Himalayas experience much cooler climates due to altitude.

Altitude significantly affects temperature - higher regions, like the Himalayas, are much cooler than lower-lying areas, even at similar latitudes.

Distance from the sea affects climate too - coastal areas have more moderate temperatures due to the sea's influence, while inland areas experience more extreme hot and cold temperatures.

The monsoon winds are a major factor, bringing seasonal rainfall that is crucial for agriculture, and their timing and strength greatly affect India's weather patterns each year.

Quick Revision Notes

- India's climate is influenced by latitude, altitude, sea distance and monsoons.
- India's latitude places it mostly in the tropical zone.
- Altitude makes Himalayan regions much cooler.
- Coastal areas have moderate temperatures due to the sea.
- Inland areas have more extreme temperatures.
- Monsoon winds bring crucial seasonal rainfall.
- Monsoon timing and strength affect weather patterns.
- These factors together create India's diverse climate.

Practice Questions

- 1 Discuss how altitude affects temperature using the Himalayas as an example.
- 2 Compare the climate of a coastal city and an inland city.
- 3 Research why monsoons are important for Indian farmers.
- 4 Explain why India has a mostly tropical climate.
- 5 Discuss the timing of monsoons in your region.
- 6 Create a chart showing climate factors and their effects.