

The Northern Mountains



Get Set!

Circle the words that are related to the word MOUNTAIN.

height beach valley comet peak

slope range oasis snow

The northern mountains include:

- the Himalayan and the Karakoram mountain ranges
- the Purvachal Hill Ranges

FactWise

Before the Himalayas were formed, there existed a sea, called the Tethys Sea, in its place.

THE HIMALAYAS

The Himalayas stretch from Jammu & Kashmir to Arunachal Pradesh (see Map 2.1). Most peaks remain snow-covered throughout the year.

The Mount Everest, in the Himalayas, is the highest peak in the world. It lies

on the border between Nepal and China.

The Himalayas consist of three parallel ranges. They are:

- The Greater Himalaya (Himadri)
- The Middle Himalaya (Himachal)
- The Outer Himalaya (Shiwalik)

THEY CLIMBED THE MOUNT EVEREST.



EDMUND HILLARY
New Zealand, 1953



TENZING NORGAY
Nepal-India, 1953



JUNKO Tabei
Japan, 1975



BACHENDRI PAL
India, 1984



ERIK WEIHENMAYER
USA, 2001

For detailed instructions, see inside front cover.



Map 2.1 Location of the northern mountains

The Greater Himalaya

The Greater Himalaya is in the extreme north. It is the highest of the three ranges. It remains covered with



A glacier is a slow-moving river of ice and snow.

snow throughout the year. Glaciers are found in these mountains. Many rivers such as Indus, Ganga, Yamuna and Brahmaputra originate from these glaciers. Kanchenjunga is a very high peak in this range.

The Middle Himalaya

The Middle Himalaya lies towards the south of the Greater Himalaya. It is lower in height than the Greater Himalaya. The mountain slopes are covered with thick forests of pine, fir and deodar. Hill stations such as Shimla, Nainital and Darjeeling are situated here.

The Outer Himalaya

The Outer Himalaya is located south of the Middle Himalaya. It is the lowest in height. This range is covered with forests. Many wild animals are found in these forests.

KARAKORAM MOUNTAINS

To the north-west of the Himalayas, beyond River Indus, lies the Karakoram Range (see Map 2.1). Mount Godwin Austen (K2) lies in this range. It is the highest peak in India and the second-highest peak in the world.

LIFE IN THE REGION

Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh lie in the Himalayas and the Karakoram Range. Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Darjeeling in West Bengal and some part of Arunachal Pradesh are in

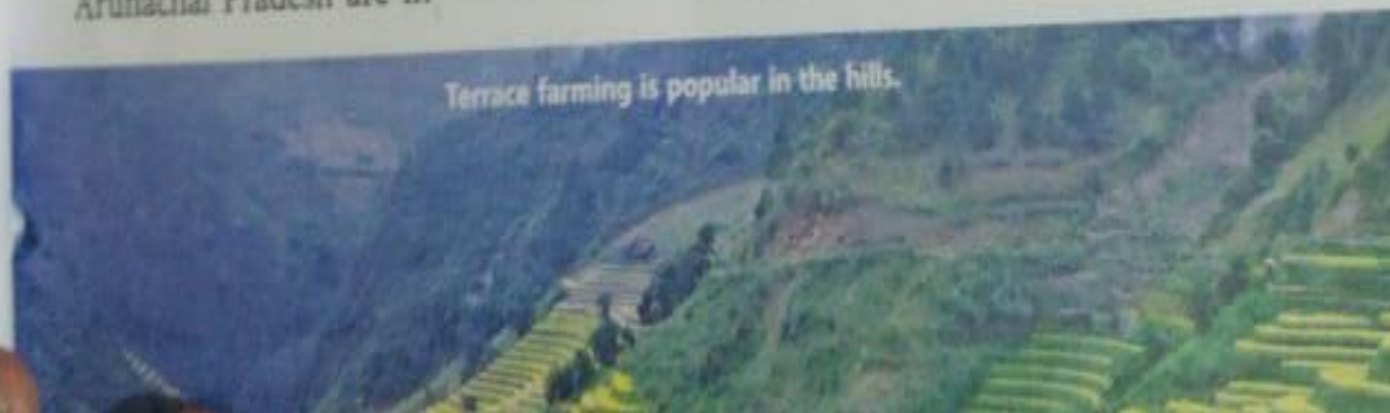


The availability of pastures has made sheep rearing an important occupation in the mountains.

the Himalayas.

Farming is the main occupation of the people. Due to lack of plain land, farmers have cut steps or terraces along the slopes. On these steps they grow rice, maize, barley and potatoes. Such farming is called terrace farming. Some people also engage in sheep rearing and wood carving.

Terrace farming is popular in the hills.





Kullu Dussehra is celebrated in October in the Kullu valley of Himachal Pradesh.

Jammu & Kashmir

Jammu & Kashmir is famous for its apple orchards and saffron cultivation. Men and women wear a long woollen kurta, called phiran, and salwar. During winter, they use kangri to keep themselves warm. People drink kahwa, a special type of tea. Some places of tourist attraction are Srinagar, Gulmarg and Amarnath.



Kahwa

Ladakh

Ladakh is known for its beautiful scenery and barren mountains. Men wear a thick woollen robe called goncha. Women wear a similar robe called kuntop.



Double-humped camel

They also wear colourful shawls. The double-humped camel is only found here in India. The Zaskar Valley, Pangong Lake and Leh Palace are a few places of tourist interest.

Himachal Pradesh

Himachal Pradesh is famous for its apple orchards. Men wear embroidered caps called Kullu caps. Women wear scarves called dhazu. The most popular festival is the Kullu Dussehra. Many tourists visit Shimla, Dalhousie and Manali.



Kullu cap

Uttarakhand

Uttarakhand is famous for basmati rice, lychees and plums. Some people weave woollen shawls, scarves and rugs. Mussoorie, Nainital and Haridwar attract a large number of tourists.

Sikkim

Sikkim is famous for oranges, cardamom and orchids. Some men and women wear a loose gown, fastened at the waist. It is called bakhu. They also wear colourful jewellery made from beads. The main tourist places are Gangtok and Pelling.



A Sikkimese girl dressed in bakhu



Checkpoint

Circle the correct words.

1. Mount Godwin Austen / Mount Everest is the highest peak in the world.
2. The Outer Himalaya are also known as Himadri / Shiwalik.
3. Kashmiri men and women wear phiran / bakhu.
4. Basmati rice is grown in Sikkim / Uttarakhand.
5. Pelling / Ladakh is a place of tourist attraction in Sikkim.

PURVACHAL HILL RANGES

In the north-east are the Purvachal Hill Ranges, also known as the North-Eastern Hills (see Map 2.1). These hills are not very high. They are covered with thick forests.

LIFE IN THE REGION

The Purvachal Hill Ranges include the north-eastern states, namely the eastern part of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura and Meghalaya. Farming and weaving are the main occupations of the people living here. They grow rice, maize, potatoes, ginger, pulses and oilseeds. They also grow oranges, pineapples and bananas for sale in the market.

Arunachal Pradesh

Arunachal Pradesh is famous for



Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh is a popular tourist destination. It has the largest monastery in India.

fruit orchards and orchids. Some people do wood carving, carpet weaving and make bamboo and cane products. Itanagar, Ziro and Tawang are a few places of tourist interest.

Nagaland

Apart from farming and weaving, wood carving and pottery are also



Baskets made from bamboo are a traditional handicraft of the north-eastern states.



Cheraw or the bamboo dance is an important part of the Chapchar Kut festival.

important occupations. The Nagas wear shawls of different designs. We can tell the tribe a Naga belongs to from the design on her/his shawl. Kohima and Dimapur are places of tourist interest.

Manipur

A variety of fruits such as lychee, chestnut, walnut, papaya and passion fruit are grown in Manipur. Craftsmen make articles from bamboo, cane and leather. The Manipuri dance is very popular. Imphal and Ukhrul attract many tourists.

Mizoram

The traditional farming of Mizoram has now been replaced with fruit and rose cultivation. Some people make

silk from silkworms. Chapchar Kut is an important festival celebrated in March.

Tripura

Jute, rubber and bamboo are grown in Tripura. Bamboo is used to make handicrafts. People mostly speak Bangla and Kokborok. Agartala and Unakoti attract tourists throughout the year.



A bamboo handicraft

Meghalaya

People of this state belong to the Garo, Khasi and Jaintia tribes. Khasi and Garo are widely spoken languages. The Strawberry Festival is a big tourist attraction. Shillong and Cherrapunji are popular places to visit.

Words to know

langri a small earthen pot with burning coal used as a means to keep oneself warm



Quick recap

- The northern mountains include the Himalayan and the Karakoram mountain ranges, and the Purvachal Hill Ranges.
- The Himalayas have three parallel ranges - Greater Himalaya, Middle Himalaya and Outer Himalaya.
- The northern mountains cover the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and the states of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Darjeeling in West Bengal and some part of Arunachal Pradesh. Most people are engaged in farming, sheep rearing and wood carving.
- The Purvachal Hill Ranges cover Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura and Meghalaya. Farming and weaving are the main occupations.

Read and answer

A Match the columns.

1. kahwa
2. dhazu
3. bakhu
4. Garo
5. Kokborok


- a. a tribe in Meghalaya
- b. a special tea popular in Jammu & Kashmir
- c. a language spoken in Tripura
- d. dress worn by men and women of Sikkim
- e. scarf worn by women of Himachal Pradesh

B Write two examples of each.

1. Rivers that originate in the Himalayas
2. Woven products of Uttarakhand
3. States lying in the Purvachal Hill Ranges
4. Fruits grown in Manipur
5. Places of tourist interest in Meghalaya

C Answer these questions.

1. Which are the three parallel ranges of the Himalayas?
2. What is terrace farming? Why is it popular in the mountains?
3. What is Sikkim famous for?
4. What are the main occupations of the people of Arunachal Pradesh?
5. How can we tell the tribe a Naga belongs to?



Orchids grow in Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.

D Think and answer.

Can we grow crops on Mount Everest? Give reasons for your answer.

HOTS**Do and learn**

- E ACTIVITY** If A = 1, B = 2, C = 3, D = 4, and so on, decode the names of the following dresses. Then use the Internet. Find out the names of the state/s where people wear these dresses.

	NAME OF THE DRESS	STATE WHERE IT IS WORN
1. 16 21 1 14	_____	_____
2. 22 1 20 3 8 9	_____	_____
3. 18 9 11 21 20 21	_____	_____
4. 19 1 18 15 14 7	_____	_____
5. 10 1 9 14 19 5 13	_____	_____

- F RESEARCH** Mount Everest is the highest peak in the world. It is in Asia. Find out the names of the highest mountain peaks in the other six continents.

- G MAP WORK** Mark and label these peaks and ranges on the map of India given on page 134. Mount Godwin Austen, Kanchenjunga, Himalayas, Purvachal Hill Ranges, Karakoram Range

- H WEBLINK** To watch a video of Cheraw dance, visit rsgr.in/bss402.

- I LIFE SKILL** It gets very cold in the mountains. Here are a few tips to keep warm.

- Wear thermals.
- Eat more, especially fatty foods.
- Drink a lot of water.
- Cover your ears, head and neck to prevent heat loss.
- Wear tight clothes.
- Wear gloves and warm socks.

Q1: Answer the following questions:

1. Which are the three parallel ranges of the Himalayas?

Ans1: The three parallel ranges of the Himalayas are:

1. The Greater Himalaya (Himadri)
2. The Middle Himalaya (Himachal)
3. The Outer Himalaya (Shiwalik)

2. What is terrace farming? Why is it popular in the mountains?

Ans2: In the mountains, farmers cut steps or terraces along the hill slopes to grow crops. This type of farming is called terrace farming.

2 part) It is popular in the mountains as the nature of the land is sloping.

3. What is Sikkim famous for?

Ans3: Sikkim is famous for its oranges, cardamom and orchids.

4. What are the main occupations of the people of Arunachal Pradesh?

Ans4: The main occupations of the people of Arunachal Pradesh are farming, wood carving, carpet weaving and making bamboo and cane products.

5. How can we tell the tribe a Naga Belongs to?

Ans5: We can tell the tribe a Naga belongs to from the design on her/ his shawl.

QB: Write two examples of each:

- | | | |
|--|-----------------|-------------|
| 1. Rivers that originate in the Himalayas | Ganga, | Yamuna |
| 2. Woven products of Uttarakhand | Woollen Shawls, | Scarves |
| 3. States lying in the Purvachal Hill ranges | Manipur | Meghalaya |
| 4. Fruits grown in Manipur | lychee | Papaya |
| 5. Places of tourist interest in Meghalaya | Shillong | Cherrapunji |