

ADVANCED GEOGRAPHY OF UTTAR PRADESH

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Physical divisions of Uttar Pradesh:

Uttar Pradesh can be divided into three distinct physiographical regions:

1. Bhabar and Terai Belt
2. The Gangetic Plain
3. Plateau Region of Sand

Bhabar and Terai Belt:-

The transitional belt running along the Sub-Himalayan Terai region is called the Terai and Bhabar belt. This region covers the districts of Saharanpur in the West to Deoria in the East. *Bhabar and Terai Belt regions are discussed below:*

Bhabar Region:-

It is the Northern most part of Uttar Pradesh. This region is extended from Saharanpur to Kushinagar (Padrauna). It is located in the North of Terai region. It is around 34-35 km broad in the Western part and becomes narrower towards East. This region is made up of boulders (large rocks) and pebbles (small stones) which have been carried down by the river streams. The streams flow underground as soil in this region.

The land of this region is very rugged. This area covers Saharanpur, Bijnor, Shahjahanpur, Lakhimpur-Kheri and Pilibhit districts.

Terai Region:-

This region is extended from Saharanpur in North-West to Deoria in the East. It is located South of Bhabar region. It is around 80-90 km wide in the Eastern Uttar Pradesh and becomes narrower towards the West. It is a level damp and marshy plain region which is formed by fine silt. Its climate is not suitable for health as this region receives high rainfall and malaria is very common here. Rivers which flow underground in Bhabar region, reappear in Terai region. The plant species such as Sal, Semal, Haldu, Tendu, etc are found and Sawan type grass is also seen in the Terai region. Terai belt has narrowed and farmers of this region received fertile land to cultivate rich crops. The main crop are jute, sugarcane, wheat and paddy. The Terai region covers certain parts of Saharanpur, Bijnor, Rampur, Bareilly, Pilibhit, Lakhimpur-Kheri, Bahraich, Gonda, Basti, Gorakhpur and Deoria districts. Shivalik hill located near Gorakhpur in this region is known as Dundawa.

The Gangetic Plain:-

This region lies between Bhabar-Terai region in the North and plateau region in the South. It is also known as Doab and Ganga- Yamuna plain. It is very important in terms of economic point of view. Triveni Sangam, in Allahabad (Prayagraj) has the confluence of three rivers- the Ganga, the Yamuna and the Saraswati. The Gangetic plain is drained by the Yamuna, the Ganga and the Sharda, etc which bring sediments with them and deposit in this region. The depth of this clay soil is upto 4500 m. The elevation of this region is 80 m to 250 m and the slope of this region is from North-West to South-East. Its slope is very steep in the Western part as compared to the Eastern part. It is a very fertile plain where Rabi and Kharif crops are grown, e.g. rice, wheat, millet, gram, etc. Sugarcane is the chief cash crop of this region.

Structurally this plain region is divided into two parts:

Bangar Land:-

It is the high elevated land which is free from flood water. It is famous for its older alluvial deposits. It is less fertile as compared to Khadar land

Khadar Land:-

It is a low-land area where waterlogging is almost seen. The soil is deposited every year by flood and the land is fertile as compared to Bangar land. Some parts of Khadar land face the erosional process by rivers like Yamuna and Chambal. Ravines are seen here and soil is not fertile.

Plateau Region of the South:

This region is comprised of Vindhya hills and plateau and also known as Bundelkhand Plateau. The Southern fringe of the Gangetic plain and Northern part of plateau region is demarcated by the Ganga and Yamuna rivers. The Northern part of this region is surrounded by the Ganga-Yamuna rivers, the Southern part by Vindhyan range, the Eastern part by Ken river and the Western part by Beta river. This plateau is composed of ancient Gneiss rocks. Generally the region has an average height of 300 to 450 m and the altitude of the region decreases from South to North. But at some places like Mirzapur and Sonbhadra the elevation goes up to 600 m, e.g. Kaimur and Dinakar hills. This region receives less rainfall thus, having stunted growth of flora,. The important crops of this region are jowar, mustard, gram and wheat. Due to scanty rainfall dry farming is practiced on a large scale in this region. The Betwa, Chambal, Son, Ken and Tons are the main rivers of this region. The Ken and Betwa pass through Bundelkhand region to join the river Yamuna. This region covers Jhansi, Jalaun, Hamirpur, Mahoba, Chitrakoot, Lalitpur, Banda, Meja and Karchhana tehsils of Allahabad

district, part of Mirzapur lying South of Ganga river and Chakka tehsil of Chandauli district.