

Direct questions on Geography

Geological Structure of Bihar

- Younger rocks to the north, older rocks to the south
- North-west is Terai, Central is Gangetic plain and south is plateau region
- Bihar plain is the youngest to be formed
- Dharwar rocks - South-eastern Bihar - Jamui, Nawada, Munger districts
- Vindhyan rocks - South-western Bihar - Kaimur, Rohtas districts
- Plateau region - extends as a narrow belt from Kaimur district to Banka district

Climate of Bihar

- Continental Monsoon type climate
- Northern part is cooler compared to the southern part
- Eastern part receives 200 cm of rainfall while western part receives 100 cm.
- April month has the lowest humidity
- Temperature of the eastern part is reduced due to the impact of the Nor'wester showers.
- Nor'wester - tropical cyclonic thunderstorm, extremely helpful for pre-kharif crops
- Gaya is hottest in May while coldest in January.

Soils of Bihar

- Piedmont Swamp Soil - West-Champaran, supports rice, rich in organic matter
- Terai Soil - found in the Northern belt bordering Nepal, Champaran to Kishanganj, sugarcane, jute
- Bhangar - older alluvial soil -loamy, sticky, rich in lime, good for paddy and sugarcane, Patna and Gaya
- Khadar - younger alluvial soil - rich in nitrogen, good for paddy and

wheat, Purnia, Saharsa, Darbhanga

- Karail-Kewal soil - heavy clay, alkaline, from Rohtas to Bhagalpur, brown to yellow
- Tal soil - poor drainage, grey, high yield, from Buxar to Banka
- Balthar soil - presence of iron, red and yellow, less fertile, in transitional zone between Chhotanagpur plateau and Ganga plain, Kaimur to Rajmahal hills
- Bal Sundari - alkaline, Saharsa and Champaran, maize and tobacco

Ganga

- Enters at Chausa forming boundary of Bhojpur and Saran
- Northern tributaries - Ghaghra in Saran, Gandak at Sonapur, Bagmati at Munger, Kosi at Kursela, Kali-Kosi at Manihari
- Southern tributaries - Sone at Maner, Karmanasa at Chausa, Punpun at Fathua
- It has the largest catchment area in Bihar
- Mahatma Gandhi Setu - connects Patna in south to Hajipur in north

Ghaghra / Saryu

- Originates at Nampa in Nepal
- Enters Bihar at Gopalganj
- Joins Ganga at Chhapra

Gandak

- Originates at Tibet
- Enters India near Triveni in Nepal,
- Forms boundary of Bihar and UP
- Enters Bihar at West Champaran
- Joins Ganga at Sonapur
- Triveni Canal gets water from this river

Burhi Gandak

- Originates at Someshwar hills in Chautarwa Chaur of West Champaran
- Flows parallel to river Gandak
- Joins Ganga at Khagaria

Kosi

- Notoriously known as Sorrow of Bihar for its changing of course
- It is made up of seven channels from Nepal known as Sapt Kosi
- Enters Bihar through Supaul
- Joins Ganga at Kursela in Katihar

Bagmati

- Originates in Shvpuri range in Nepal
- Enters Bihar in Sitamarhi
- Joins Kosi at Badlaghat

Kamla

- Originates in Mahabharat Range in Nepal near Sindhuliagarhi
- Enters Bihar in Madhubani
- Kamla Barrage has been constructed
- Joins river Bagmati at Badlaghat

Mahananda

- Originates in Sikkim
- Enters Bihar in Kishanganj
- Joins Ganga at Nawabganj in Bangladesh
- In upper course forms an important linguistic boundary between Hindi and Bengali speaking area.

Sone

- Originates in Amarkantak range in MP
- Joins Ganga near Maner
- Important tributaries are Rihand and North Koel

Punpun

- Originates in the Hazaribagh plateau
- Joins Ganga near Fatuha

- Causes heavy flood damage to east of Patna city

Phalgu

- It is also known as Niranjana
- It is considered a sacred river and flows past Gaya

Waterfalls in Bihar

- Kakolat waterfall - in Nawada near Jharkhand border, fall of 160 ft
- Karkat waterfall - in the Kaimur hills near the Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary
- Manjhar Kund and Dhua Kund - in Sasaram, utilized for power generation

Hot Springs

- Most of the Hot Springs are concentrated in Rajgir and Munger.
- Rajgir - Saptdhara, Surya Kund, Makhdum Kund, Brahma Kund
- Munger - Lakshman Kund, Rameshwar Kund, Gaumukh Kund, Sita Kund, Rishi Kund

Flora and Fauna

- Total forest area - 7288 sq. km, 7.74% of total area (1.04% of India's forest)
- Maximum forest area - Kaimur district
- Minimum forest area - Sheikhpura
- Total area under very dense forest is in West Champaran
- Moist deciduous forest are found in Kishanganj, West Champaran, Kaimur, Gaya etc.
- Dry Deciduous - most abundant in Bihar, Kaimur, Purnia, Raxaul etc.
- Valmiki National Park -located in West Champaran, established in 2nd August 1989
- Valmiki Tiger Reserve consists of Valmiki National Park and Valmiki Wildlife Sanctuary
- Bhimbandh Wildlife Sanctuary - Munger, south of Ganga, has several hot springs like Sita Kund and Rishi Kund, more famous for

birds than land animals, established in 25 June 1976

- Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary - Kaimur, Bengal Tigers are also found here, several waterfalls like Karkat and Telhar waterfall, famous lake is Anupam Lake, established in 25 July 1979
- Gautam Buddha Wildlife Sanctuary - located in Gaya and Hazaribagh (Jharkhand), previously it was private hunting reserve, established in 14 September 1971
- Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary - Bhagalpur stretching from Sultanganj to Kahalgaon, only protected area for Gangetic Dolphins, established in 28 August 1990
- Sanjay Gandhi Jaivik Udyan - located in Patna, biological park combining a botanical garden with zoo, established in 8th March 1983

Miscellaneous

- Total area - 99,200 sq. km (10th in India)
- Population - 10,40,99,452 (3rd in India)
- Decadal Growth Rate - 25.4%
- Population Density - 1106
- Sex Ratio - 918
- Child Sex Ratio - 935
- Literacy Rate - 61.8%
- Most Populated - Patna
- Least populated - Saharsa
- Most Dense - Sheohar (1880)
- Least Dense - Kaimur (488)
- Largest district - West Champaran
- Smallest district - Sheikhpura