

Factors Affecting India's Climate

Latitude

The Tropic of Cancer passes through the middle of the country from the Rann of Kachchh in the west to Mizoram in the east. India's climate has characteristics of tropical as well as subtropical climates.

Altitude

India has mountains to the north and also has a vast coastal area where the maximum elevation is about 30 metres. Owing to the mountains, subcontinent experiences comparatively milder winters as compared to central Asia.

Pressure and Winds

The climate and weather conditions in India are governed by the following atmospheric conditions:

- Pressure and surface winds
- Upper air circulation
- Western cyclonic disturbances and tropical cyclones

Air moves from the high-pressure area over the southern Indian Ocean, in a south-easterly direction, crosses the equator and turns right towards the low-pressure areas over the Indian subcontinent. These are known as the **Southwest Monsoon winds**. These winds blow over the warm oceans, gather moisture and bring widespread rainfall over the territories of India.

Jet streams are fast flowing, narrow, meandering air currents in the atmosphere.

READ THE ABOVE ARTICLE CAREFULLY AND TRY to UNDERSTAND AND GIVE THE ANSWER of THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1.WHAT IS LATITUDE ?

2.WHAT IS SOTHWEST MOONSOON?

3.WHAT IS JET STREAM?

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