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Class 9th

Subject Geography

Ch: Climate

Give reasons as to why.

- (i) Seasonal reversal of wind direction takes place over the Indian subcontinent?
- (ii) The bulk of rainfall in India is concentrated over a few months.
- (iii) The Tamil Nadu coast receives winter rainfall.
- (iv) The delta region of the eastern coast is frequently struck by cyclones.
- (v) Parts of Rajasthan, Gujarat and the leeward side of the Western Ghats are drought-prone.

ANSWER:

- (i) The seasonal reversal of wind direction over the Indian subcontinent is the result of the Coriolis force. It is an apparent force caused by the Earth's rotation. The Coriolis force is responsible for deflecting winds towards the right in the northern hemisphere and towards the left in the southern hemisphere.
- (ii) The rainfall received by India is largely due to the south-west monsoon winds. The duration of the monsoon is between 100 to 120 days. Hence, the bulk of rainfall received by the country is concentrated over a few months.
- (iii) During the winter season, north-east trade winds prevail over India. They blow from land to sea and hence, for most part of the country, it is a dry season. However, the Tamil Nadu Coast receives winter rainfall due to these winds. This is because in this region these winds blow from sea to land, thereby carrying moisture along with them.
- (iv) The delta region of the eastern coast of India is frequently struck by cyclones. This is because the cyclonic depressions that originate over the Andaman Sea are brought in by the sub-tropical easterly jet stream blowing over peninsular India during the monsoon as well as during the October to November period.
- (v) Parts of Rajasthan, Gujarat and the leeward side of the Western Ghats are drought-prone because of the scanty rainfall received by these regions during the monsoon rains. The

progressive decrease in the humidity of the winds of the Bay of Bengal branch causes the amount of rainfall to decrease from east to west in northern India. As the leeward side is the rain-shadow area, the regions lying in this region receive very little rain from the Arabian Sea branch. It is the windward side of the Ghats that receives the maximum rain.

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