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Ch: DRAINAGE (Notes)

the basis of the size of the watershed,

the drainage basins of India are grouped into three categories:

(i) Major river basins with more than 20,000 sq. km of catchment area. It includes 14 drainage basins such as the Ganga, the Brahmaputra, the Krishna, the Tapi, the Narmada, the Mahi, the Pennar, the Sabarmati, the Barak, etc.

(ii) Medium river basins with catchment area between 2,000-20,000 sq. km incorporating 44 river basins such as the Kalindi, the Periyar, the Meghna, etc.

(iii) Minor river basins with catchment area of less than 2,000 sq. km include fairly good number of rivers flowing in the area of low rainfall.

North Indian rivers are originating from Himalayas peninsular rivers are originating from Western ghats

The Narmada and Tapi are two large rivers which are exceptions originating from central highlands.

the Indian drainage may also be classified into the Himalayan drainage and the Peninsular drainage.

THE HIMALAYAN DRAINAGE

1. The Himalayan drainage system has a long geological history.
2. the important rivers are Ganga, the Indus and the Brahmaputra rivers.
3. Since these are fed both by melting of snow and precipitation, rivers of this system are perennial.
4. rivers form giant gorges V-shaped valleys, rapids and waterfalls in their mountainous course.
5. While entering the plains, they form depositional features like flat valleys, ox-bow lakes, flood plains,