

# 6

## India–The Coastal Plains and the Islands

### Lesson Plan

#### Contents

- ▶ The Coastal Plains of India
- ▶ The Western Coastal Plains
- ▶ The Eastern Coastal Plains
- ▶ The Island Groups

#### Objectives

- ▶ Learning about the two parts of India's Coastal Plains
- ▶ The location, extent and features of each
- ▶ The Island Groups of India: location, extent and features
- ▶ The life of the people on the coastal plains: the States – (i) Gujarat (ii) Maharashtra (iii) Goa (iv) Karnataka (v) Kerala (vi) Tamil Nadu (vii) Puducherry (viii) Andhra Pradesh (ix) Odisha
- ▶ Life in the Island Groups

#### Teacher's Aids

- ▶ Maps of India – Political and Physical
- ▶ Atlases
- ▶ Blank maps of India for the students
- ▶ Blackboard, internet, pictures, magazines, etc.

#### Tips for Teacher

- ▶ Point out the different features and locations as you teach as visuals are stronger than the spoken or written word.
- ▶ It is always useful to display pictures of the physical features, lifestyles, crafts, etc., of the areas under reference.

## /// Gear Up, Background and Reading

- ▶ Gear Up shows an advertisement for Amul Butter that is made at Anand, Gujarat.
- ▶ Explain how each state of India is known for something special – industry, farming, cattle rearing, technology, architecture, arts, crafts, etc.
- ▶ Read aloud the lesson, and the points to remember, and explain using the maps, atlases, blackboard, etc.
- ▶ Explain the extent and location of the entire coastal plain, from Gujarat, along the Arabian Sea, to Kanniyakumari, and then along the Bay of Bengal till Odisha.

## /// Western Coastal Plains

- ▶ Explain the extent and location of the Western Coastal Plains, from the Rann of Kachchh in Gujarat, along the Arabian Sea, to Kanniyakumari.
- ▶ The width is about 65 km.
- ▶ **Three parts:**
  - (i) Gujarat Coast – northern part
  - (ii) Konkan Coast – middle part
  - (iii) Malabar Coast – southern part
- ▶ Rivers from Western Ghats – short, swift.
- ▶ Malabar coast backwaters with saltwater lakes called lagoons, locally called kayals – largest is Vembanad.

## /// Eastern Coastal Plains

- ▶ Explain the extent and location of the Eastern Coastal Plains from Kanniyakumari in Tamil Nadu to the area of the coast in Bengal.
- ▶ The width is about 120 km.
- ▶ **Two parts:**
  - (i) Northern Circars – northern part
  - (ii) Coromandel Coast – southern part
- ▶ Rivers Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, Kaveri – deltas – bring rich alluvium from the plateaus making the area fertile.

## /// The Indian Island Groups

- ▶ (i) Andaman and Nicobar Islands – Bay of Bengal – Andamans in the north, Nicobar to the south.
  - Islands mostly hilly and thickly forested.
  - 1200 km approximately from Kolkata and Chennai.
  - Port Blair [capital]. Cellular Jail at Port Blair.
  - The southernmost point of islands is India's southernmost point too – Indira Point.

- ▶ (ii) Lakshadweep – Arabian Sea.
  - 200 to 500 km approximately from the Malabar Coast, Kerala
  - Coral origin of the islands, almost no hills or streams
  - Smallest UT of India – Kavaratti [capital] – Minicoy is the largest island
  - Fishing main occupation; coconut main crop.

### /// Life of People in the Coastal Plains – States

Many States and UTs along the coastal plains. Some have been dealt with partially earlier. This is about their coastal areas:

- (i) Gujarat – Gandhinagar [capital], Ahmadabad largest city; Narmada, Tapi & Sabarmati rivers; Occupations: farmers & traders; dairy farming – Amul in Anand; Salt, petroleum, textiles, diamond cutting; Gir National Park – Asiatic lions; languages, dress, dances, etc. The culture of the UTs Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli is similar to Gujarat.
- (ii) Maharashtra – Mumbai [capital], trade and industrial centre, Konkan coast; farming – suitable for crops and fruits – alphonso mangoes around Ratnagiri; Fishing; Marathi, Konkani, Hindi.
- (iii) Goa – Panaji [capital]; smallest state; Farming – crops & fruits, fishing; rich in iron ore; tourism – beautiful beaches, Basilica of Bom Jesus, Mahalakshmi Temple, Fort Aguada; Annual Carnival.
- (iv) Karnataka – Konkan Coast – Mangaluru important seaport; Occupation – farming, fishing; dense teak forests.
- (v) Kerala – Thiruvananthapuram [capital]; Malabar Coast; backwaters called kayals; Occupations – farming, fishing; languages; Onam – snake-boat race; Kathakali and Mohiniattam dances; Tourism – temples & beaches.
- (vi) Tamil Nadu – Chennai [capital]; Coromandel Coast; Occupations – farming, fishing; Marina Beach in Chennai – longest beach in India; Tourism – rock-cut temples, Mamallapuram, Rameshwaram, Vivekananda Rock Memorial, Kanniyakumari.
- (vii) Puducherry [UT] – south of Chennai; includes Yanam, Mahe and Karaikal; was under French rule – hence influence remains; Farming; Main city – Auroville- Aurobindo Ashram & Matri Mandir.
- (viii) Andhra Pradesh – Krishna & Godavari rivers; Rice; fishing; Vishakhapatnam main seaport; Industries – iron & steel plant, ship-building, oil refinery.; Crafts – kalamkari & bidriware.
- (ix) Odisha – area of coastal plains called Northern Circars; Mahanadi river; Farming- rice, coconuts; Puri, Bhubaneshwar & Konark – temple towns; Chilika Lake & Nandankanan National Park.

### /// Life in the Island Groups

- ▶ Andaman & Nicobar Islands – Bay of Bengal – dense forests – Farming and fishing – tribals; Tourism – Cellular Jail at Port Blair.
- ▶ Lakshadweep – Arabian Sea – Coral islands – Fishing; coconut; Malayalam.