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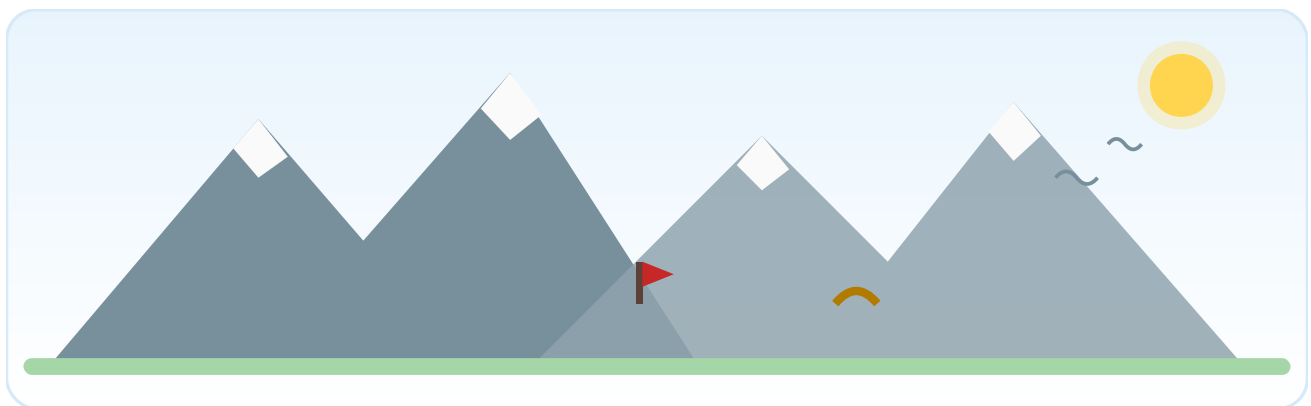
Your Companion for General Studies

COMPLETE EDITION

MOUNTAINS *of* INDIA

RANGES · PEAKS · PASSES · HILL STATIONS

Himalaya · Trans-Himalaya · Purvanchal · Aravalli · Western & Eastern Ghats



30

Ranges with Profile
Diagrams

95+

Peaks with
Heights

44+

Passes &
Gaps

90+

Exam Pointers
& Facts

Location · Type · Highest Peak · Length & Direction · Rivers Originating · Wildlife

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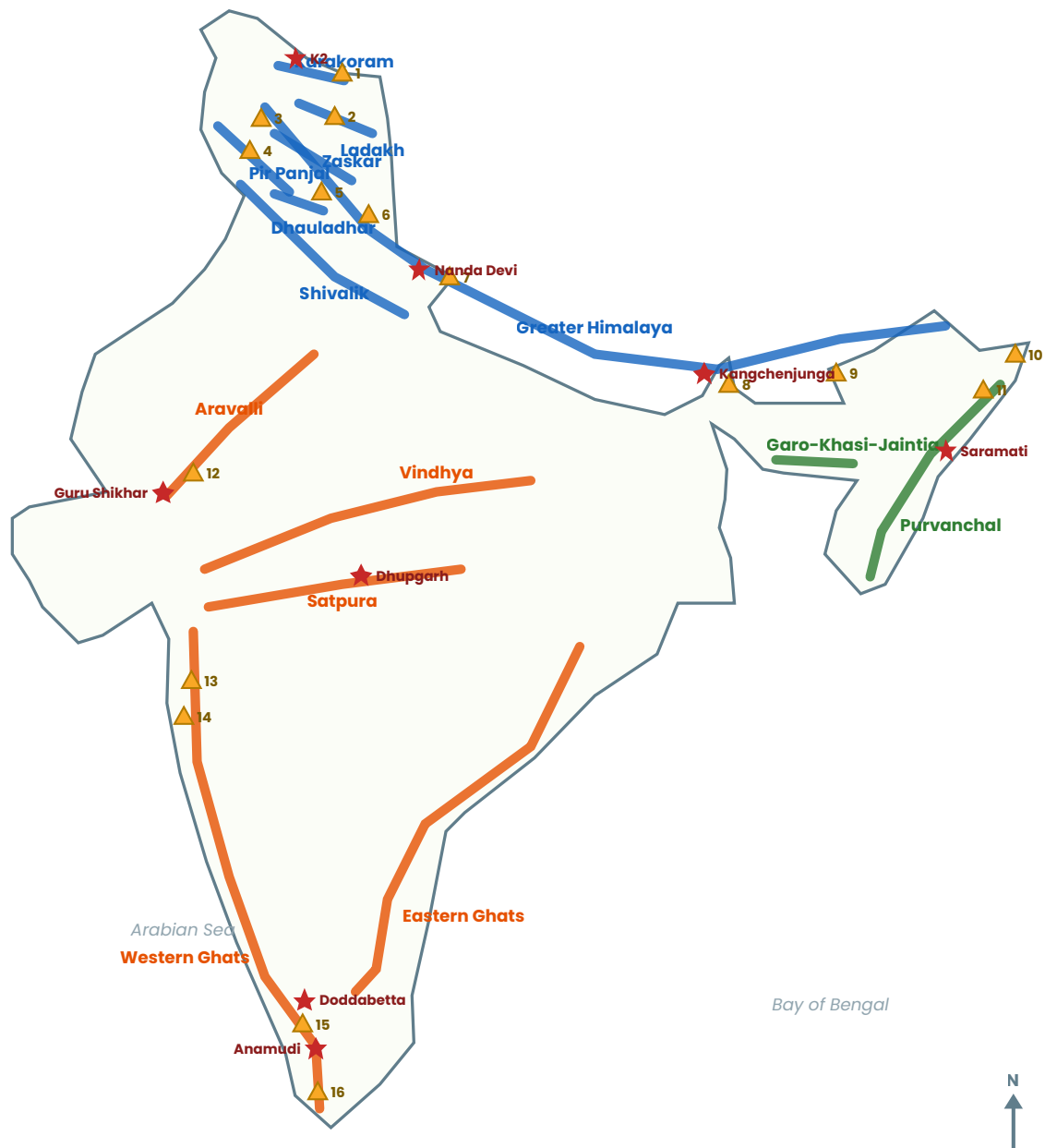
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All Ranges at a Glance

Range	States/UTs	Highest Peak	Height (m)	Type
Himalayan & Trans-Himalayan Ranges				
Karakoram	Ladakh (UT), Gilgit-Baltistan (Paki...	K2 (Mount Godwin Austen /...	8,611	Trans-Himalaya (Tethys/Tibetan Himalaya...
Ladakh Range	Ladakh (UT), northern tip in Baltis...	Rakaposhi (7,788 m, at th...	7,788	Trans-Himalaya (north of the Indus sutu...
Zaskar (Zaskar) Range	Ladakh (UT), Jammu & Kashmir (fring...	Kamet (per Britannica; ma...	7,756	Usually grouped with the Trans-Himalaya...
Pir Panjal	Jammu & Kashmir (UT), Himachal Prad...	Indrasan (at its eastern ...	6,221	Lesser/Middle Himalaya (young fold moun...
Dhauladhar	Himachal Pradesh, small extension t...	Hanuman ji ka Tibba (Hanu...	5,982	Lesser/Middle Himalaya (young fold moun...
Greater Himalaya (Himadri)	Jammu & Kashmir (UT), Ladakh (UT), ...	Kangchenjunga (highest pe...	8,586	Young fold mountains of the Tertiary pe...
Lesser / Middle Himalaya (H...	Jammu & Kashmir (UT), Himachal Prad...	Indrasan, 6,221 m (in the...	6,221	Young fold mountains (Tertiary); highly...
Shivalik (Outer Himalaya)	Jammu & Kashmir (UT), Punjab, Harya...	No single celebrated peak...	1,100	Youngest Himalayan range; built of unco...
North-East Hills (Purvanchal)				
Patkai Bum (Patkai Hills)	Arunachal Pradesh	Saramati (culmination of ...	3,826	Tertiary fold mountains (Himalayan orog...
Naga Hills	Nagaland, Manipur	Saramati	3,826	Tertiary fold mountains (part of Purvan...
Manipur Hills	Manipur	Mount Tempu (Iso / Esii / ...	2,994	Tertiary fold mountains (part of Purvan...
Mizo Hills (Lushai Hills)	Mizoram	Phawngpui (Blue Mountain)	2,157	Tertiary fold ridges; NCERT: Mizoram is...
Tripura Hills (Baramura-Ath...	Tripura	Betlingchhip (Betalongchh...	930	Tertiary (Neogene) fold ridges - southe...
Khasi-Jaintia Hills	Meghalaya	Shillong Peak (Lum Shyllo...	1,961	NOT fold mountains - part of the Meghal...
Garo Hills	Meghalaya	Nokrek Peak	1,412	NOT fold mountains - western part of th...
Mikir Hills & Barail Range	Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Meghalaya	Japfu (highest of the Bar...	3,048	Two distinct units: Mikir hills = detac...
Peninsular Ranges & Hills				
Aravalli Range	Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat	Guru Shikhar (Mount Abu b...	1,722	Relict/residual FOLD mountains - the ol...
Vindhya Range	Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh,...	Sad-bhawna Shikhar / Good...	752	NOT true fold mountains - a relict esca...
Satpura Range	Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Prades...	Dhupgarh (Mahadeo Hills, ...	1,350	BLOCK mountains (horst) uplifted betwee...
Maikal Hills (Maikal Range)	Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh	Amarkantak	1,057	Plateau-edge hills - the eastern member...
Kaimur Hills (Kaimur Range)	Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar	No prominent named summit...	—	Plateau/escarpment of Vindhyan sandston...
Rajmahal Hills	Jharkhand	Unnamed highest point of ...	567	VOLCANIC hills of basalt - the 'Rajmaha...
Western Ghats (Sahyadri)	Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnatak...	Anamudi (Anaimalai hills,...	2,695	NOT true mountains - a faulted/ erosiona...

Mountain Ranges & Passes — Map of India



■ Himalayan & Trans-Himalayan ■ North-East (Purvanchal) ■ Peninsular ▲ Pass ★ Peak

▲1 Karakoram Pass
▲2 Khardung La
▲3 Zoji La
▲4 Banihal
▲5 Rohtang
▲6 Shipki La

▲7 Lipulekh
▲8 Nathu La
▲9 Bum La
▲10 Diphu Pass
▲11 Pangsau Pass
▲12 Goran Ghat

▲13 Thal Ghat
▲14 Bhor Ghat
▲15 Palakkad Gap
▲16 Shencottah Gap

Schematic map for study purposes — not to scale; boundaries and locations are approximate.

State-wise Mountain Guide

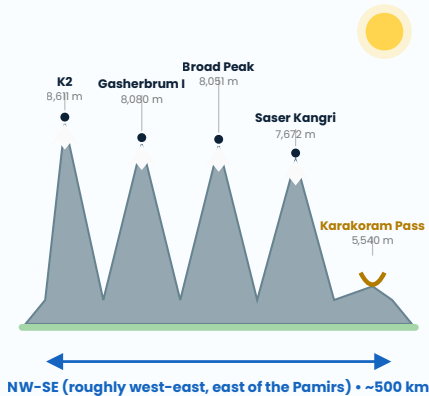
Kaunsi range kis state me hai — quick revision table. (Range ka highest peak poore range ka hai; zaroori nahi ki wo peak usi state me ho.)

State / UT	Mountain Ranges present
Andhra Pradesh	Eastern Ghats
Arunachal Pradesh	Greater Himalaya (Himadri) Lesser / Middle Himalaya (Himachal) Shivalik (Outer Himalaya) Patkai Bum (Patkai Hills)
Assam	Shivalik (Outer Himalaya) Mikir Hills & Barail Range
Bihar	Shivalik (Outer Himalaya) Vindhya Range Kaimur Hills (Kaimur Range)
Chhattisgarh	Satpura Range Maikal Hills (Maikal Range)
Delhi	Aravalli Range
Goa	Western Ghats (Sahyadri)
Gujarat	Aravalli Range Vindhya Range Satpura Range Western Ghats (Sahyadri) Girnar Hills
Haryana	Shivalik (Outer Himalaya) Aravalli Range
Himachal Pradesh	Zaskar (Zanskar) Range Pir Panjal Dhauladhar Greater Himalaya (Himadri) Lesser / Middle Himalaya (Himachal) Shivalik (Outer Himalaya)
Jammu & Kashmir	Zaskar (Zanskar) Range Pir Panjal Dhauladhar Greater Himalaya (Himadri) Lesser / Middle Himalaya (Himachal) Shivalik (Outer Himalaya)
Jharkhand	Rajmahal Hills
Karnataka	Western Ghats (Sahyadri) Eastern Ghats Nilgiri Hills
Kerala	Western Ghats (Sahyadri) Nilgiri Hills Anaimalai Hills (Anamala / 'Elephant Hills') Cardamom Hills (Yela Mala)
Ladakh	Karakoram Ladakh Range Zaskar (Zanskar) Range Greater Himalaya (Himadri)
Madhya Pradesh	Vindhya Range Satpura Range Maikal Hills (Maikal Range) Kaimur Hills (Kaimur Range)
Maharashtra	Satpura Range Western Ghats (Sahyadri)
Manipur	Naga Hills Manipur Hills Mikir Hills & Barail Range
Meghalaya	Khasi-Jaintia Hills Garo Hills Mikir Hills & Barail Range
Mizoram	Mizo Hills (Lushai Hills)
Nagaland	Naga Hills Mikir Hills & Barail Range
Odisha	Eastern Ghats
Punjab	Shivalik (Outer Himalaya)
Rajasthan	Aravalli Range Vindhya Range
Sikkim	Greater Himalaya (Himadri) Lesser / Middle Himalaya (Himachal)
Tamil Nadu	Western Ghats (Sahyadri) Eastern Ghats Nilgiri Hills Anaimalai Hills (Anamala / 'Elephant Hills') Cardamom Hills (Yela Mala) Palani Hills Shevaroy Hills (Servarayan Hills)
Telangana	Eastern Ghats
Tripura	Tripura Hills (Baramura-Atharamura-Longtharai-Sakhan-Jampui)
Uttar Pradesh	Vindhya Range Kaimur Hills (Kaimur Range)
Uttarakhand	Zaskar (Zanskar) Range Greater Himalaya (Himadri) Lesser / Middle Himalaya (Himachal) Shivalik (Outer Himalaya)
West Bengal	Lesser / Middle Himalaya (Himachal) Shivalik (Outer Himalaya)

Karakoram

Himalayan & Trans-Himalayan Ranges

RIDGE PROFILE (schematic)



- Peak
- ⤵ Pass/Gap
- ⚡ Hill Station
- ▲ Snow peak (>4500 m)

Location & Extent

Northernmost range of the Indian subcontinent; extends southeastward from the Pamir Knot across Gilgit-Baltistan (PoK) and northern Ladakh, forming the watershed between Central and South Asia

States / UTs

Ladakh (UT)

Gilgit-Baltistan (Pakistan-occupied Kashmir)

Type of Mountains

Trans-Himalaya (Tethys/Tibetan Himalaya zone, north of the Indus-Tsangpo suture; older than the Himalaya proper)

Highest & Important Peaks

K2 HIGHEST PEAK · 8,611 m

~500 km LENGTH

Other peaks: Gasherbrum I (Hidden Peak) (8,080 m), Broad Peak (8,051 m), Gasherbrum II (8,035 m)

Important Passes / Gaps

- **Karakoram Pass (5,540 m)** — Ladakh; historic Leh-Yarkand (Central Asia) caravan route; near India...
- **Aghil Pass (~4,805 m)** — North of K2 in PoK-administered territory; old Ladakh-Xinjiang route
- **Saser La (~5,395 m)** — Ladakh; on the old summer trade route from Nubra valley towards Karak...

Rivers Originating Here

Nubra (from Siachen glacier), Shyok (from Rimo glacier), Hunza and Shigar (PoK side, to Indus)

National Parks & Wildlife

- **Karakoram (Nubra-Shyok) Wildlife Sanctuary** — Ladakh; snow leopard, wild yak, Tibetan wild ass (kiang), double...

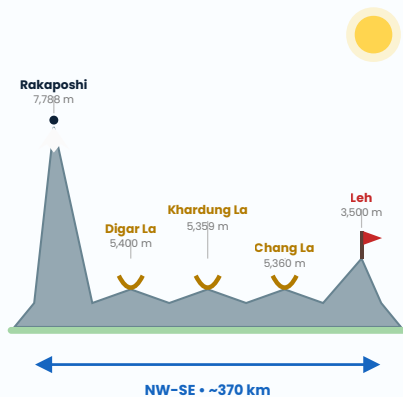
Exam Pointers

- ★ K2 (8,611 m) is India's highest peak (lies in PoK-administered Gilgit-Baltistan) and the world's 2nd highest; Kangchenjunga (8,586 m) is the highest within India's undisputed territory
- ★ Siachen glacier (~76 km) in the Karakoram is the longest glacier outside the polar regions and the world's highest battlefield; other great glaciers: Baltoro, Biafo, Hispar, Batura, Ri...
- ★ Ancient Indian name of the Karakoram is 'Krishnagiri' (black mountains); average elevation ~6,100 m

Ladakh Range

Himalayan & Trans-Himalayan Ranges

RIDGE PROFILE (schematic)



- Peak
- ⤵ Pass/Gap
- 🚩 Hill Station
- ⚡ Snow peak (>4500 m)

Location & Extent

Runs NW-SE between the Indus valley (south) and the Shyok valley (north); Leh lies at its southern foot; continues into Tibet as the Kailash Range

States / UTs

Ladakh (UT)

northern tip in Baltistan (PoK)

Type of Mountains

Trans-Himalaya (north of the Indus suture; older than the Himalaya proper)

Highest & Important Peaks

Rakaposhi HIGHEST PEAK - 7,788 m

~370 km LENGTH

Other peaks: Average crest height ~6,000 m; few prominent peaks - many summits below 6,000 m (6,000 m)

Important Passes / Gaps

- **Khardung La (~5,359 m; traditionally signposted 5,602 m)** — Ladakh; connects Leh to Nubra valley and Siachen; among the world's h...
- **Chang La (~5,360 m)** — Ladakh; on the Leh-Pangong Tso road
- **Digar La (~5,400 m)** — Ladakh; old crossing from Indus valley to Nubra/Shyok
- **Tsaka La (~4,724 m)** — Eastern Ladakh crossing of the range

Hill Stations

Leh (high-altitude town at its foot, ~3,500 m; not a conventional hill station)

Rivers Originating Here

No major river rises on it; it parts the Indus (south) from the Shyok (north)

National Parks & Wildlife

- **Hemis National Park** — Ladakh UT, across the Indus from Leh; largest national park in I...

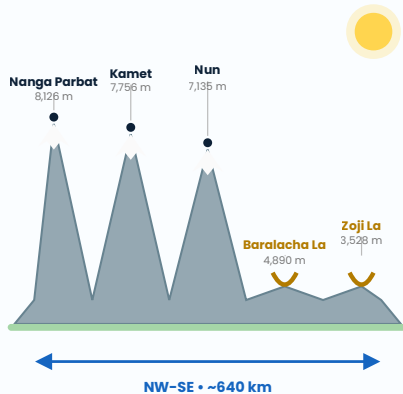
Exam Pointers

- ★ Acts as the divide between the Indus and Shyok rivers; the Indus flows NW along its entire southern base
- ★ Khardung La on this range is the gateway to the Nubra valley and Siachen glacier
- ★ Its eastward continuation in Tibet is the Kailash Range (Mt Kailash 6,714 m, source region of Indus-Sutlej-Brahmaputra-Karnali)
- ★ Rakaposhi, often quoted in Indian exams as its highest peak, is famous for one of the steepest continuous mountain slopes on Earth

Zaskar (Zaskar) Range

Himalayan & Trans-Himalayan Ranges

RIDGE PROFILE (schematic)



- Peak ⤴ Pass/Gap 🏠 Hill Station
- ▲ Snow peak (>4500 m)

Location & Extent

Runs NW-SE south of the Indus and roughly parallel to the Great Himalaya, from the Suru/Karcha river region of Ladakh southeast towards the upper Karnali (through HP-Uttarakhand border zone)

States / UTs

Ladakh (UT)

Jammu & Kashmir (fringe)

Himachal Pradesh

Uttarakhand

Type of Mountains

Usually grouped with the Trans-Himalaya/Tethys Himalaya in Indian textbooks (some treat it as a northern offshoot of the Great Himalaya)

Highest & Important Peaks

Kamet HIGHEST PEAK · 7,756 m

~640 km LENGTH

Other peaks: Nanga Parbat (NW extremity, in PoK; site of the western syntaxial bend) (8,126 m), Nun (7,135 m), Kun (7,077 m)

Important Passes / Gaps

- **Zoji La (~3,528 m)** — Ladakh/J&K; on the Srinagar-Kargil-Leh NH-1; Zojila tunnel (under con...
- **Baralacha La (~4,890 m)** — Himachal Pradesh; on the Manali-Leh highway; Bhaga river (of Chenab) ...
- **Shipki La** — Himachal Pradesh (Kinnaur); the Sutlej enters India through it; also ...
- **Lipulekh** — Uttarakhand; Kailash-Mansarovar yatra route and border trade with Tib...
- **Mana Pass** — Uttarakhand, near Badrinath; among the highest motorable passes; also...

Hill Stations

Padum (Zaskar valley headquarters; not a conventional hill station)

Rivers Originating Here

Zaskar (cuts a deep gorge through the range to meet the Indus at Nimmu), Suru, Shingo, Hanle

National Parks & Wildlife

- **Kishtwar High Altitude National Park** — J&K; snow leopard, Himalayan musk deer, brown bear, in the Kisht...

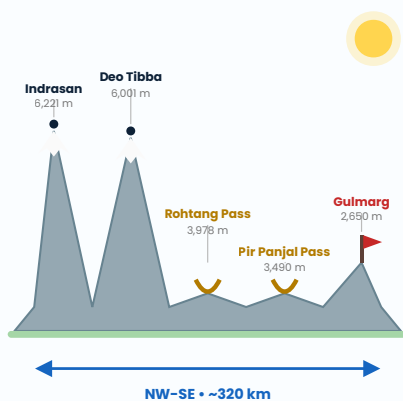
Exam Pointers

- ★ The frozen Zaskar river is the route of the famous 'Chadar trek' in winter
- ★ Nanga Parbat (8,126 m) at its NW end marks the western syntaxial (hairpin) bend of the Himalaya, around which the Indus cuts a deep gorge
- ★ Britannica cites Kamet (7,756 m) as its highest summit; several Indian exam sources cite Nanga Parbat - note both
- ★ Zoji La across this range keeps Ladakh connected to the Kashmir valley; snow-bound in winter until the Zojila tunnel is completed

Pir Panjal

Himalayan & Trans-Himalayan Ranges

RIDGE PROFILE (schematic)



Location & Extent

Longest and most important range of the Lesser (Middle) Himalaya; runs NW-SE from near the Jhelum/Neelum river (PoK) through Jammu & Kashmir to the upper Beas valley in Himachal Pradesh, separating the Vale of Kashmir from the Ja...

States / UTs

Jammu & Kashmir (UT)

Himachal Pradesh

fringe in PoK

Type of Mountains

Lesser/Middle Himalaya (young fold mountains of the Tertiary period)

Highest & Important Peaks

Indrasan HIGHEST PEAK · 6,221 m

~320 km LENGTH

Other peaks: Deo Tibba (6,001 m), Tatakuti (4,725 m)

Important Passes / Gaps

- **Pir Panjal Pass (~3,490 m)** — J&K; on the historic Mughal Road between Poonch/Rajouri and the Kashm...
- **Banihal Pass (~2,832 m)** — J&K; Jammu-Srinagar axis; bypassed by the Jawahar Tunnel (1956) and t...
- **Rohtang Pass (3,978 m)** — Himachal Pradesh; Manali to Lahaul-Spiti; bypassed by the Atal Tunnel
- **Haji Pir Pass (~2,637 m)** — On the Poonch-Uri route (now in PoK); captured by India in the 1965 w...
- **Sach Pass (~4,414 m)** — Himachal Pradesh; connects Chamba valley with Pangti valley

Hill Stations

Gulmarg (J&K; famous ski resort with the Gulmarg Gondola) • Bhaderwah (Jammu, 'Mini Kashmir')

Rivers Originating Here

Beas (from Beas Kund near Rohtang Pass), Ravi (from Bara Bhangal, on the Pir Panjal-Dhauladhar flank in Kangra district)

National Parks & Wildlife

- **Hirpora Wildlife Sanctuary** — J&K (Shopian), on the Pir Panjal; habitat of the Pir Panjal mark...
- **Gulmarg Wildlife Sanctuary** — J&K; musk deer, hangul range adjoining the Kashmir valley

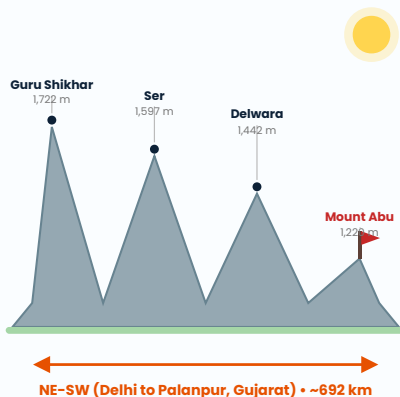
Exam Pointers

- ★ Atal Tunnel under Rohtang (officially 9.02 km) is the world's longest highway tunnel above 10,000 ft (3,000 m); inaugurated Oct 2020
- ★ Jawahar Tunnel (2.85 km, 1956) and the Banihal-Qazigund tunnel (8.45 km, 2021) pierce the range on NH-44; the 11.2 km Pir Panjal (Banihal) railway tunnel and the 12.77 km T-49 tunnel (...)
- ★ The Vale of Kashmir lies between the Pir Panjal and the Great Himalaya; karewa deposits on its flanks are famous for saffron (Pampore)

Aravalli Range

Peninsular Ranges & Hills

RIDGE PROFILE (schematic)



- Peak
- ⤵ Pass/Gap
- 🚩 Hill Station
- ⚡ Snow peak (>4500 m)

Location & Extent

Runs NE-SW across north-western India from Delhi (Raisina/ridge outliers) through Haryana and Rajasthan to Palanpur near Ahmedabad in Gujarat

States / UTs

Delhi Haryana Rajasthan Gujarat

Type of Mountains

Relict/residual FOLD mountains - the oldest fold-mountain range of India and among the oldest in the world (Proterozoic Aravalli-Delhi orogeny); now an eroded stub of a once-lofty system

Highest & Important Peaks

Guru Shikhar HIGHEST PEAK • 1,722 m

~692 km LENGTH

Other peaks: Ser (1,597 m), Delwara (1,442 m), Jarga (Udaipur) (1,431 m)

Important Passes / Gaps

- **Pipli Ghat** — Pass in the Ajmer-Merwara section, historically used by rail/road across
- **Haldighati** — Pass near Udaipur; Battle of Haldighati (1576) between Maharana Pratap and Mughals
- **Dewair (Diwer)** — Pass in Mewar; Battle of Dewair between Maharana Pratap and Mughals
- **Desuri Nal** — Pass linking Marwar (Pali) with Mewar (Udaipur) across the range
- **Goran Ghat** — Pass connecting Udaipur (Mewar) with Sirohi-Jalore (Marwar/Godwar) region

Hill Stations

Mount Abu (approx. 1,220 m - the only hill station of Rajasthan)

Rivers Originating Here

Banas, Luni, Sabarmati, Sahibi (Sabi)

National Parks & Wildlife

- **Sariska Tiger Reserve** — Alwar, Rajasthan - lies in the Aravalli hills
- **Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary** — Around Kumbhalgarh Fort (its 36-km wall is called the 'Great Wall')
- **Mount Abu Wildlife Sanctuary** — On the Abu block around Guru Shikhar
- **Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve** — Located at the JUNCTION of the Aravalli and Vindhya ranges - classically known for its population of Asiatic lions

Exam Pointers

- ★ Oldest fold mountains of India (relict/residual mountains); often cited among the oldest in the world
- ★ Length approx. 670-800 km depending on source; commonly quoted exam figure is approx. 692 km (Delhi to Palanpur)
- ★ Guru Shikhar (1,722 m) on Mount Abu is the highest peak; Mount Abu is Rajasthan's only hill station
- ★ Runs almost parallel to the Arabian Sea branch of the SW monsoon, so it fails to cause much orographic rain - a key reason western Rajasthan (Thar) is arid