

# CLASS NOTES NORTH EAST INDIA

# Geopolitical term: Salient

- A salient is an elongated protrusion of a geopolitical entity, such as a subnational entity or a sovereign state.
- While similar to a peninsula in shape, a salient is not surrounded by water on three sides. Instead, it has a land border on at least two sides and extends out from the larger geographical body of the administrative unit.
- North East India is Largest Salient in the World
- In Geopolitics, the term panhandle is often used to describe a relatively long and narrow salient.
- Ex: Wakhan Corridor- Afghanistan , Chittagong- Bangladesh, Sikkim-- India, Jerusalem corridor- Israel

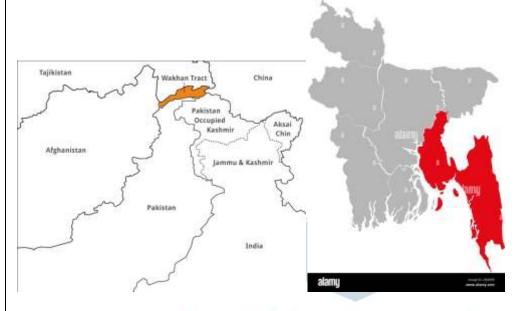
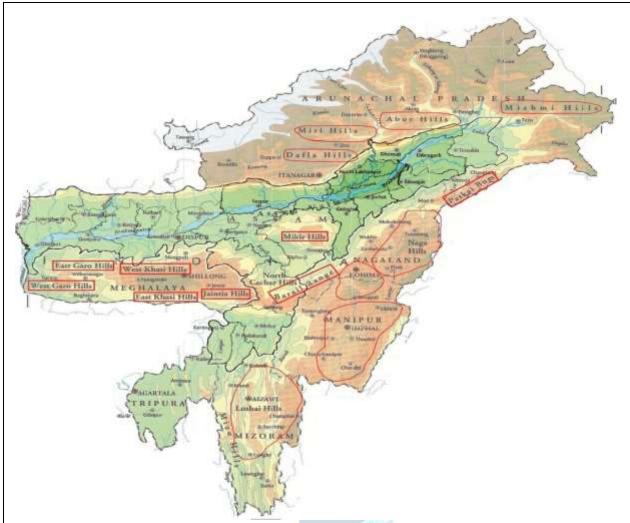


Fig: Image Showing Wakhan Corridor in Afghanistan and Second Image Showing Chittagong area of Bangladesh





# **PURVANCHAL REGION:**

- Part of Southward extension of Himalayas in North to South direction
- The Purvanchal comprises the Patkai Hills, the Naga Hills, the manipur Hills and the Mizo or lushai Hills
- Hills Composition : strong sandstones which are sedimentary rocks
- Further south the Barail Range swings to the west into Jaintia, Khasi, and Garo hills which are an eastward continuation of the Indian peninsular block.
- They are separated from the Rajamahal and Garo Gap -main block by Ganga and Brahmaputra rivers

#### **BARIAL RANGE:**

- Highest Hill of Assam and divide Assam and Nagaland
- Separates Naga Hills from Manipur Hills
- Water Divide of River Brahmaputra in north and River Barak in south

#### ABOUT MALDA GAP:

- Rajmahal -Garo Gap or Malda Gap
- deep fault that runs between the Rajmahal Hills in the west and the Garo Hills in the east
- separates the Meghalaya Plateau from the peninsular block of India
- Formed due to Collision of Indian and Eurasian Plates and leading to downward displacement and formation of Malda fault (downwarping / bending not rift valley)
- Now River Ganga and Brahmaputra occupied this downwarping region .

# **ABOUT NORTH EAST REGION**

- Covers About 8 % Geographical region and About 4 % Indian Population
- Includes Eight States of India Including Sikkim.
- 98 per cent with the international border of India with Bangladesh, Myanmar, China and Bhutan Nepal
- only 2 per cent of its border with the Indian mainland



- 5484 km International Boundary: Bangladesh(1880km) Myanmar (1643km) China (1346km) Bhutan ( 516km) Nepal ( 99km)
- Key Tribal Belt Region, Abundant Forest Resources, Tea, Bamboo, Petroleum region of Brahmaputra valley
- Economic Activities : Handloom, Horticulture, Agricultural.
- Key Earthquake Prone Region

# WHY FRAGILE SECURITY SITUATION IN NE INDIA?

- The Mountain topography
- Low Socio economic Development

Historical Factors - language/ ethnicity, tribal rivalry, migration, control over local resources and long and porous international boundary have resulting in weak situation in North East India.

#### **IMPORTANCE:**

- Strategic Location, Surrounded by Five countries International Border
- seen as gateway to South East Asia
- Abundant Natural resources, Biodiversity Hotspot and and Ecological Importance
- Important for National Security Aspects; Economic Potential and Cultural diversity
- Effective Management and development of this region can contribute to India's security, geopolitical interests, and economic growth.

#### CONCERNS OF NORTH EAST INDIA:

- region isolated due to Geographical location and terrain, resulted into socio-political disturbances and low level of industrial and Eco dev, Unemployment leads to poverty and social unrest.
- Lack of Infrastructure development and connectivity: The regional rail network is underdeveloped in these states
- Insurgency and militancy groups leading to ongoing violence and instability.
- Ethnic Tensions leading to conflicts between different communities
- Lack of Healthcare access leading to mortality rates and poor health outcomes.
- Lack of Education access leading to illiteracy rates and limited opportunities for the youth.
- Lack of Political representation in these region often feels marginalised and neglected by the Central Government, leading to feelings of discontent and alienation among the people.
- Issues of Environmental degradation like slash and burn cultivation or Jhum cultivation.

# KEY MEASURES TO DEVELOP NORTH EAST REGION OF THE INDIA

- Infrastructure Development to facilitate better connectivity and access to resources.
- Promoting Industrial and Economic Development to create Job opportunities and increase income levels through the provision of Tax benefits, and subsidies.
- Strengthening Skill Development and Education
- Promoting Tourism
- Sustainable agricultural Practices and Providing access to modern Technology and improving irrigation facilities to boost agricultural productivity
- Promoting entrepreneurship in the North East region can create self-employment opportunities and boost economic development
- Strengthening border trade and connectivity with neighbouring countries like Myanmar, Bangladesh, and Bhutan can open up new markets and increase trade opportunities for the North East region. This can be achieved by improving border infrastructure, simplifying customs and logistics processes, and promoting cross-border investments
- Improve governance and Social inclusion providing access to basic amenities like healthcare, education, and sanitation in remote areas, and promoting social welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of society
- Improve public service delivery and ensure effective utilization of resources. Empowering local governments, improving transparency and accountability, and promoting grassroots participation in decision-making processes.
- Promoting cultural exchange and integration: Promoting cultural exchange programs, festivals, and events can enhance cultural integration and create a sense of shared identity among the diverse communities of the North East region. This can foster unity and strengthen social cohesion, leading to holistic development.

### ABOUT NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL (NEC) :

- for socio economic regional development
- is a statutory advisory body constituted under the North Eastern Council Act 1971
- consists of the eight States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura.



- The Council comprises of Governors and Chief Ministers of constituent States and three members to be nominated by the President as per clause (iii) of Section 3 of the North Eastern Council (Amendment) Act, 1971. The Union Home Minister is ex-Officio Chairman and the Minister DoNER is the ex-Officio Vice-Chairman of the NEC.
- The headquarters of the council is situated in Shillong and functions under the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DONER) of the Government of India (formed in 2001 as Department and then Ministry in 2004)

#### DONER:

- is the only Ministry with a territorial jurisdiction and functions to coordinate the developmental efforts in the North Eastern Region
- aims to give focused attention to address the special needs of the NE region

# Objective of DONER:

- economic development including removal of infrastructural bottlenecks,
- provision of basic minimum services,
- creating an environment for private investment and
- to remove impediments to lasting peace and security in the North Eastern Region.

The North Eastern Council (NEC) was established by the North Eastern Council Act, 1971. Subsequent to the amendment of NEC Act in 2002, the Council comprises which of the following members?

- 1. Governor of the Constituent State
- 2. Chief Minister of the Constituent State
- 3. Three Members to be nominated by the President of India
- 4. The Home Minister of India

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a. 1,2 and 3 only
- b. 1,3 and 4 only
- c. 2 and 4 only
- d. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: A

- Statement 1 is correct: The Governor of the constituent state is a member of the NEC.
- Statement 2 is correct: The Chief Minister of the constituent state is a member of the NEC.
- Statement 3 is correct: Three members are nominated by the President of India.
- Statement 4 is correct: The Home Minister of India is the ex-Offico Chairman of the NEC. He is not a member under section 3 as mentioned in the Act.



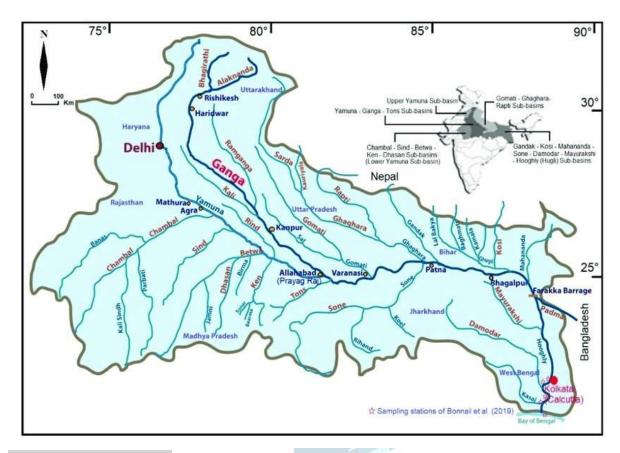
# About Chicken Neck / Siliguri Corridor

- is a narrow stretch of land, 60 km Long and 22 km wide, located around the city of Siliguri in West Bengal, India.
- central transfer point that connects Bhutan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sikkim, Darjeeling, and Northeast India to one another.
- High Sensitive Territory, Siliguri Corridor was created in 1947 after the partition of Bengal.
- As a sensitive area amidst three countries, the strip is heavily patrolled by the Indian Army, the Assam Rifles, the Border Security Force and the West Bengal Police.

- Siliguri is the gateway to North East India.
- Siliguri city is located at a span areas of the Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri Districts.
- Siliguri is situated at the banks of River Mahananda ,a trans boundary river at the foot hills of Himalayas.



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# **CHICKEN NECK RELEVANCE:**

- Geo-strategically located Located between Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, and Tibet (China)
- serves as a gateway to the landlocked northeastern states of India
- This region is resource-rich and economically important vital link for trade and connectivity
- Critical Area for India 's National Security It poses a security challenge as it is vulnerable to infiltration, subversion, and
  potential threats from hostile neighboring countries.
- key region for economic and cultural integration.

Decreasing State Size: Decreasing Areawise State: AP- Assam-Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland Tripura and Sikkim.

# North East State Formation Years

Assam (Pragjyotisha, Kamaru pa)	15 Aug 1947,
Nagaland	1 Dec 1963
Meghalaya	20 January 1972
Manipur	21 January 1972
Tripura	21 January 1972
Sikkim	16MAy 1975
Arunachal	20 Feb 1987
pradesh(NEFA)	
Mizoram(Lushai Hills)	20 Feb 1987

3

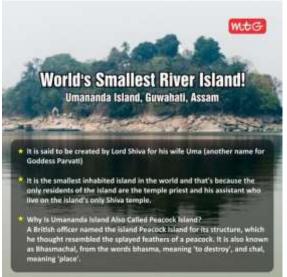
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Earlier Arunachal Pradesh called North East Frontier Agency called NEFA

#### India Myanmar Border: India shares 1643 km long border with Myanmar. Border distribution given below

- The States of Arunachal Pradesh (520 km), Nagaland (215 km), Manipur (398 km) and Mizoram (510 km) have common border with Myanmar. The Assam Rifles is guarding the IndoMyanmar Border.
- Out of 1643 km, demarcation of 1472 km has been completed. There are two undemarcated portions along Indo-Myanmar horder:
- Lohit sub-sector of Arunachal Pradesh 136 km.
- o (ii) Kabaw valley in Manipur 35 km.

#### Unique NorthEast Facts for Exam



Umananda Island was home to the species of the endangered golden langur, introduced to the island in the 1980s, with the last one dying in 2020



News: estimated 7,396
golden langurs in India.(
March 2024 News Hindu)
Range: It is limited
to Assam, India and
neighboring Bhutan where
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Manas Biosphere Reserve

- Conservation status
- o IUCN: Endangered

- o o CITES: Appendix I
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- 2. Largest monastery in India: Tawang (and the second largest in the world: after the Potala Palace in Lhasa, Tibet....
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- 6. only root bridge in the world:meghalaya: hand made aerial root of rubber trees(aerial roots of rubber fig trees) by khasi people and Jaintia. Root bridges have also been observed in the Indian state of Nagaland.
- 7. World oldest working refinery: Digboi, in Tinsukia district, Assam. from 1901, Oil City of Assam,
- 8. Golden Silk or Muga silk of Assam is the unique golden-yellow silk produced only in India.
- 9. the orchid state of India/ paradise of botantist .- Arunachal pradesh.
- 10. Bogibeel bridge in Assam The bridge, which spans the River Brahmaputra between Dibrugarh and Dhemaji districts of Assam, is of immense economic and strategic significance for the nation.
- 11. The world's longest sandstone cave named Krem Puri was discovered near Laitsohum village, located in the Mawsynram area in Meghalaya's East Khasi Hills district. 'Krem' means 'cave' in Khasi language. Mawsmai caves near Cherrapunji are the limestone caves, lies near by the village of Mawsmai. Meghalaya, the beautiful state of Northeast India is well famous in the world for its number of deep caves such as the Siju Cave, Krem Liat Prah is the longest cave in Asia.





About Meghalaya Plateau and Mikir Hills:

Consisting of the Garo, Khasi, Jaintia hills and the outlying Milar and Rengma hills, it is a plateau which has been detached from the Indian Peninsula by the Malda Gap or Rajmahal Garo Gap.

- Cherrapunji-the wettest place in the world is situated in the East Khasi Hills and Lum Shyllong is the highest peak near to Shillong.
- Garo Hills highest peak is known as Nokrek Peak / Tura peak, ,Balpakram Wildlife Park,Naphak Lake and most famous limestone caves of Siju, one of the longest in Asia.
- 12. Nohkalikai Falls located near Cherrapunji is one of the most beautiful and photogenic falls in Meghalaya



13. Lake Tsongo and Rumtek Monastery in Sikkim

14Tripura accounts for the second-largest production of rubber in India after Kerala. The Rubber Board now considers Tripura the "Second Rubber Capital of India

- 15. Blue mountain is the highest peak of Lushai Hills. of Mizoram
  - 16 Umiam Lake, also known as Bara Pani is a reservoir in the hills 15 km (9.3 mi) north of Shillong in the state of Meghalaya, India. It was created by damming the Umiam River in the early 1960s. ( Near Umaim Dam)
- 17. Mizoram called 'Molassis basin' and known as land of Rolling Mountains
- which is made up of soft unconsolidated deposits.
- geographical region that consists of large depression or low lying area
- filled with sedimentary rocks (molassic sediments)
- ie it has huge number of mountainsand valet type depressions which runs parallel to mountains.
- These depressions get accumulated with unconsolidated deposits known as Molassis Basin

#### Important Valley of North East

- Barak Valley:Assam
- Dibang Valley:AP
- Dihing Valley:AP
- Dzükou Valley, Nagaland( Valley of flower )( Naga-manipur border ) Tribe: Angami people. It is situated at an altitude of 2452 m above sea level

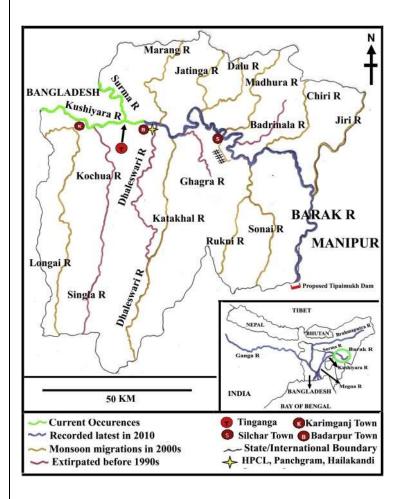
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Kabaw Valley, Manipur and Sagaing Region, Myanmar

- Neora Valley, Kalimpong, Darjeeling
- Tlawng Valley, Mizoram
- Yumthang Valley, Sikkim
- Laitlum Valley, Shillong
- Ziro Valley Arunachal Pradesh famous for paddy-cum-pisciculture cultivation. of Apatani people

### About Barak Valley of Assam

- is situated in the southern part of Assam with an area of 6,922 sq.kms.
- It is separated by the Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills from the Brahmaputra Valley in Assam.
- the Barak valley is surrounded by the state of Meghalaya in the North, Manipur in the East, Mizoram in the South and Tripura in the West.
- The Sylhet district of Bangladesh is in the western region of Barak Valley.
- The main city of the valley is Silchar.
- Agriculture is the dominant factor in the economy of Barak Valley.
- Tea Plantation and rubber Plantation is major Outcome of Barak Valley



# The Barak river

- 1. is an important river in Manipur and Mizoram.
- 2. It is also called as Surma River which flows in North-eastern India and Eastern Bangladesh.
- 3. It rises in the Manipur Hills in northern Manipur state, India, where it is called the Barak, and flows west and then southwest into Mizoram state.
- 4. The river next splits into two branches, the Surma (north) (Surma valley -in a rich tea-growing valley) and the Kusiyara (south), which enter Bangladesh and turn southwest.
- 5. The river flowing through the states of Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram and Assam in India and into the Bay of Bengal via Bangladesh
- 6. The principal tributaries of the Barak are all in India and are the River Sonai (Tuirial River), the Jiri, the Tlawng (Dhaleswari / Katakal), the Longai and the Madhura.
- 7. Tipaimukh Dam, hydro dam in Manipur is a proposed embankment dam on the Barak River.



Concerns: Bangladesh says that the massive dam will disrupt the seasonal rhythm of the river and have an adverse effect on downstream agriculture, fisheries and ecology of the region.

About :Yumthang Valley or Sikkim Valley of Flowers sanctuary, and is home to the Shingba Rhododendron Sanctuary, A tributary of the river Teesta flows past the valley

HIGHEST PEAKS OF EACH NORTHEASTERN STATE IN INDIA:

- 1. Arunachal Pradesh Kangto (7,042 meters)
- 2. Assam Mount Tumjang Karbi Anglong (Borial Range) (1,966 meters)
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#### Practice Mains Questions:

- 1 Discuss How North East Region Plays A Vital Role In India's Cultural, Economic, And Security Aspects.
- 2 Effective Management And Development Of North East India Region Can Contribute To India's Security, Geopolitical Interests, And Economic Growth.
- 3 Highlight The Key Concerns Of North East India And Provide The Solutions To Develop This Region Economy.
- 4 Why there is Fragile Security Situation In North East India? What Should Be The Key Measures To Develop North East Region Of The India.

Shifting cultivation is practised in the thickly forested areas of

- Amazon basin,
- tropical Africa,
- parts of southeast Asia and
- Northeast India and various region of Mountains in India

### Pattern:

These are the areas of heavy rainfall and quick regeneration of vegetation.

A plot of land is cleared by felling the trees and burning them. The ashes are then mixed with the soil and crops like maize, yam, potatoes and cassava are grown. After the soil loses its fertility, the land is abandoned and the cultivator moves to a new plot. Shifting cultivation is also known as 'slash and burn' agriculture.



#### Primitive Subsistence Farming

This type of farming is still practised in few pockets of India. Primitive subsistence agriculture is practised on small patches of land with the help of primitive tools like hoe, dao and digging sticks, and family/community labour. This type of farming depends upon monsoon, natural fertility of the soil and suitability of other environmental conditions to the crops grown.

It is a 'slash and burn' agriculture. Farmers clear a patch of land and produce cereals and other food crops to sustain their family. When the soil fertility decreases, the farmers shift and clear a fresh patch of land for cultivation. This type of shifting allows Nature to replenish the fertility of the soil

Jhumming: The 'slash and burn' agriculture is known as 'Milpa' in Mexico and Central America, 'Conuco' in Venzuela, 'Roca' in Brazil, 'Masole' in Central Africa, 'Ladang' in Indonesia, 'Ray' in Vietnam.

In India, this primitive form of cultivation is called 'Bewar' or 'Dahiya' in Madhya Pradesh, 'Podu' or 'Penda' in Andhra Pradesh, 'Pama Dabi' or 'Koman' or Bringa' in Odisha, 'Kumari' in Western Ghats, 'Valre' or 'Waltre' in South-eastern Rajasthan, 'Khil' in the Himalayan belt, 'Kuruwa' in Jharkhand, and 'Jhumming' in the North-eastern region.



# Unique NorthEast Facts for Exam

World's Smallest River Island!

Umananda Island, Guwahati, Assam

\* It is said to be created by Lord Shiva for his wife Uma (another name for Goddess Parvatt)

\* It is the smallest inhabited island in the world and that's because the only residents of the island are the temple priest and his assistant who live on the island's only Shiva tample.

\* Why is Umananda Island Also Called Peacock Island?

A British officer named the island Peacock Island?

A British officer named the island Peacock Island for its structure, which he thought resembled the splayed feathers of a peacock. It is also known as litesmachal, from the words ishasms, meaning 'to destroy', and chal, meaning 'place',

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**News:** estimated 7,396 golden langurs in India found in Eastern Himalayas (March 2024 News Hindu)

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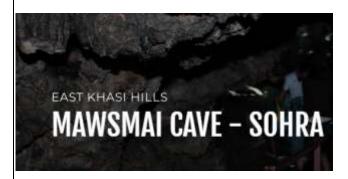
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# Important Valley of North East

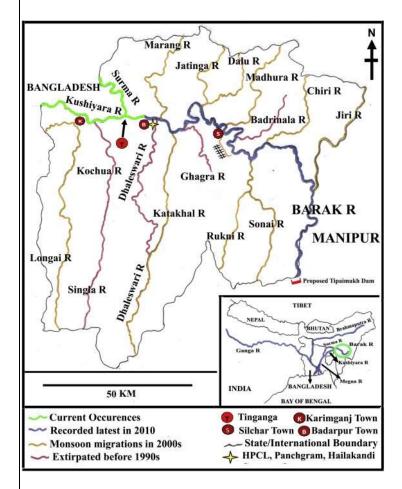
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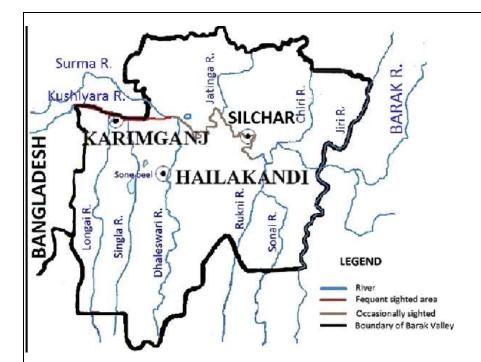
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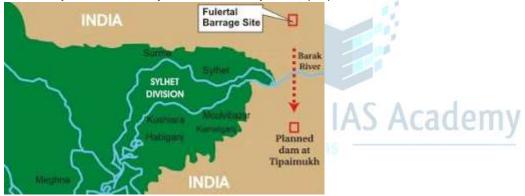
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- The main city of the valley is Silchar.
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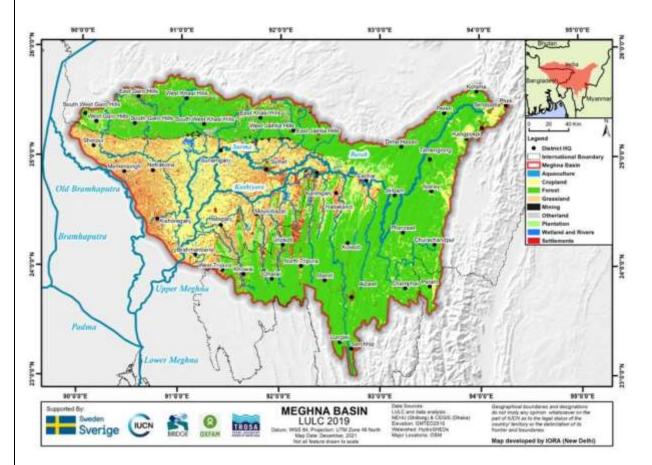
# **Practice Mains Questions:**

- 1 Discuss How North East Region Plays A Vital Role In India's Cultural, Economic, And Security Aspects .
- 2 Effective Management And Development Of North East India Region Can Contribute To India's Security, Geopolitical Interests, And Economic Growth.
- 3 Highlight The Key Concerns Of North East India And Provide The Solutions To Develop This Region Economy.

4 Why there is Fragile Security Situation In North East India? What Should Be The Key Measures To Develop North East Region Of The India.

#### **BARAK RIVER:**

- Origin: Manipur Hills
- Surrounded: River Barak Surrounded by Barial Range in North and Lushai Hills in South
- Flow: Manipur- Nagaland Border
- Barak River flows through the states of Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram, and Assam in India, then Bangladesh.
- Basin Spreads: Six States: Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Assam, Tripura and Nagaland
- Covers: 1.38 % India's geographical area
- The river enters Bangladesh as Surma (North) and Kushiyara (south) as distributaries of Barak.
- Late the river is called the Meghna and receives the combined flow of the Ganga and Brahmaputra
- **Divides**: River Brahmaputra and Barak divides by Barial Range
- **Soil Type** of Barak River Basin : <u>laterite and red and yellow soils.</u>
- The principal tributaries of Barak are the Jiri, the Dhaleswari, the Singla, the Longai, the Sonai and the Katakhal.



See Sohra Region of Meghalaya- the Wettest Place on the Earth part Barak River or Meghna River Basin .

# Que 1: The Barak River flows through:

- 1. Assam
- 2 Manipur
- 3 Nagaland

# Select the correct code:

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1,2 and 3
- d) None

#### Ans C

Barak River flows through the states of Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram, and Assam in India and into the Bay of Bengal

# Que 2 : Consider the following rivers:

- 1. Barak
- 2. Lohit
- 3. Subansiri

# Which of the above flows/flow through Arunachal Pradesh?

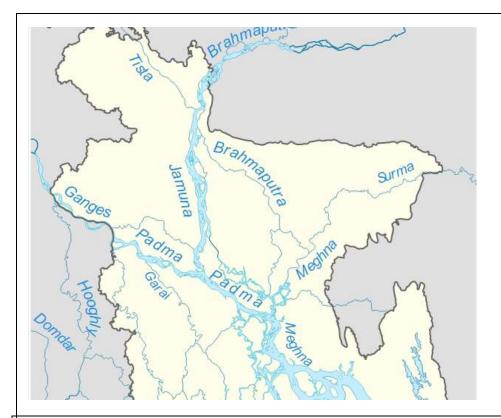
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only

# Meghna River:

- Transboundary river shared by India (57 % Total Area Basin) and Bangladesh (43 % Total Area Basin)
- The Meghna River is formed by the confluence of the Surma and Kushiyara rivers. While the Padma River eventually joins the Meghna
- See Sohra Region of Meghalaya- the Wettest Place on the Earth part Barak River or Meghna River Basin .





Que 3: India and Bangladesh share many rivers, creating one the World's best delta by the confluence of many rivers.

In this context, consider the following statements:

- 1. River Brahmaputra and River Tista confluence is known as Jamuna river.
- 2 River Jamuna and River Ganga confluence known and Padma River
- 3. River Padma and river Barak known as the Meghna river

Select the correct code:

- a) 1,2 and 3
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 3
- d) None

Ans

- Only statement 2 is corrrect.
- Padma is distributary of Ganga, flow south east and meet with Meghna to become Lower Meghna river.

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- Upper Meghna formed in Bangladesh by Joining of Surma and Kushiyara (both part of Barak)
- Padma is major tributary of Meghna

Q 4 Where does the Barak River originate?



- a) Himalayas
- b) Manipur Hills
- c) Khasi Hills
- d) Jaintia Hills

Answer: b) Manipur Hills

- Q 5 What is another name for the Barak River in Bangladesh?
- a) Padma
- b) Jamuna
- c) Surma
- d) Karnaphuli

Answer: c) Surma

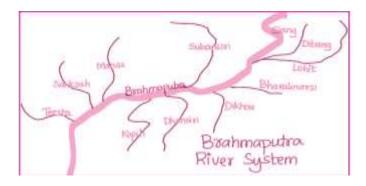
- 6 Which major city is located near the Barak River?
- a) Guwahati
- b) Silchar
- c) Dibrugarh
- d) Jorhat

Answer: b) Silchar

Top 10 Longest Rivers of India

River Name	Length (in km)
1. Ganga	2525
2. Godavari	1465
3. Krishna	1400
4. Yamuna	1376
5. Narmada	1312
6. Indus	1114 in India; Total length: 3180
7. Brahmaputra	916 in India; Total length: 2900
8. Mahanadi	851
9. Cauvery	800
10. Tapti	724

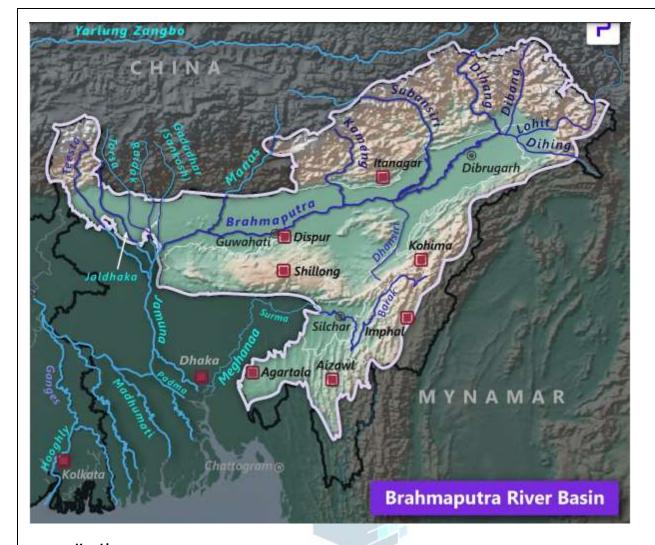
In terms of total length, Indus > Brahmaputra > Ganga



# **BRAHMAPUTRA RIVER SYSTEM:**

- Introduction: Largest river of India and Seventh Longest River of India
- Origin: Chemayungdung glacier of the Kailash range near the east of Mansarovar lake
- Total Length: 2900 km but in India-916km
- Basin Countries: Four Tibet (China), Bhutan, India, and Bangladesh
- Basin States: Six Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, West Bengal, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Sikkim.





# Key Lines:

- Flows eastwards parallel to the Himalayas.
- The Rango Tsangpo is the major right bank tributary of this river in Tibet.
- In Tibet, the river carries a smaller volume of water and less silt as it is a cold and a dry area. In India, it passes through a region of high rainfall. Here the river carries a large volume of water and considerable amount of silt.
- On reaching the Namcha Barwa (7757 m), it takes a 'U' turn and enters India in Arunachal Pradesh through a gorge.
- Here, it is called the Siang or Dihang and it is joined by the Dibang, the Lohit, near sadiya town thereafter, it is known as the Brahmaputra in Assam
- The Brahmaputra receives numerous tributaries in its 750 km long journey through the Assam valley.
- Called Red River (Reason heavy rainfall in its catchment area so huge sediment load it carries in monsoon season)
- floods, channel shifting and bank erosion, braided channel mainly in Assam and forms many riverine islands
- The Brahmaputra enters into Bangladesh near Dhubri and flows southward. In Bangladesh, the Tista joins it on its right bank to Jamuna and finally merges with the river Padma, which falls in the Bay of Bengal.

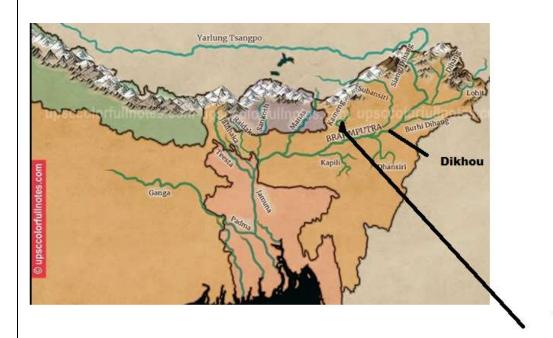
# **Different Names of Brahmaputra River**

Region	Name
Tibet	Tsangpo (meaning 'The Purifier')
China	Yarlung Zangbo, Jiangin
Assam Valley	Dihang or Siang, South of Sadiya: Brahmaputra
Bangladesh	Jamuna River
	<u></u>

Region Name

Padma River: Combined Waters of Ganga and Brahmaputra

Meghana: From the confluence of Padma and Meghna



**Major Tributaries of Brahmaputra** 

- North or Right bank tributaries: Rango Tsangpo (in Tibet), Subansiri, Kameng (Jiabharali), Dhansiri, Manas, Sankosh, Raidak, Torsa, Jaldhaka, Teesta.
- South or Left bank tributaries: Lohit, Dibang, Burhidihing, Disang, Dikhow, Dhansiri, Kopili.

Subansiri (or Gold River) is the largest tributary of the Brahmaputra River. • It is an antecedent river that rises in the mountains of Tibet

# LOHIT RIVER :

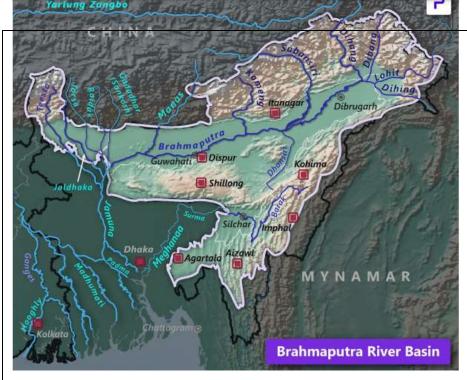
- Originates in eastern Tibet
- Enters India through Arunachal Pradesh, flowing for 200 km through the Mishmi Hills.
- Here it merges with the Siang River to form the Brahmaputra River
- The reddish color of the Lohit comes from the large amounts of lateritic soil it carries.
- The Lohit flows into the Assam plains near India's easternmost inhabited area called Kibithu.
- The Dhola-Sadiya Bridge over the Lohit connects Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.
- It is the longest bridge in India "Bhupen Hazarikh Bridge ".

### Dihing or Burhi Dihang River

- Originates in Patkai Bum Range, Arunachal Pradesh
- The Dihing is formed by the joining of two smaller rivers the Namphuk and Namchik.
- finally merge with Brahmaputra in Assam Plains



Jia Bharali



- Dihing valley or River Basin used for cultivation of Tea, Betalnuts, rubber plantations, wet rice fields, bamboo orchards and oil fields
- Tributaries : Dising and Namdhapa river
- It changes it course over time creating various Ox Bow Lakes (crescent shaped; U Shaped Lakes)

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River Meandering - Snake like Pattern formed in middle and lower course of river due to lateral erosion (sideways) and deposition within the floodplains

#### **DHANSIRI**

- Originates: Naga Hills, Laisang peak
- flows along the Intanki National Park
- Joins Brahmaputra in Assam Plains
- · Vast Majority of Kohima, Dimapur covered by Dhansiri river
- In News : due to pollution and floods
- The Dhansiri, along with the Kapili River, has completely isolated the Mikir Hills from the Peninsular Plateau

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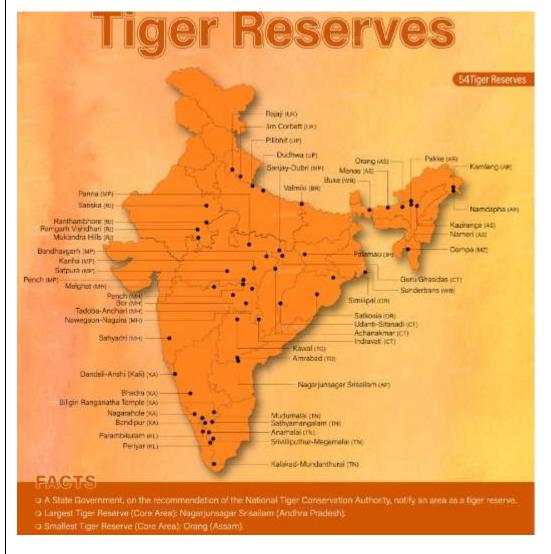
#### KAPILI or KOPILI RIVER

- Originates : Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya Plateau
- Forms border between Assam and Meghalaya
- Joins Brahmaputra in Assam Plains

### **SANKOSH RIVER:**

- Origin : North of Bhutan
- Right Bank Tributary of Brahamaputra
- flows through Hills, carries lot of silt, and has steep slopes and shallow braided channels .

- Enter India and form border between Two States: West Bengal and Assam
- Flowing further, it enters Bangladesh and Join Brahmaputra river near the Indo-Bangladesh international boundary.
- Buxa Tiger reserve between Raidak and Sankosh River



Note: Dec 2024: 57 Tiger Reserves In India

# **RAIDAK RIVER:**

- Transboundary river flows through Bhutan, India and Bangladesh.
- · Has high potential of hydroelectricity generation
- its exists in Dooars alluvial floodplains in Shivalik Foothills in North East Region
- It Passes through Neora Valley National Park, Buxa TR and then Gorumara National Park in West Bengal
- Raidak joins Brahmaputra in Bangladesh
- Buxa Tiger Reserve

### Neora river -

- Tribuary of Tista
- Orignates from -Neora Valley National Park in Kalimpong district, West Bengal



#### JALDHAKA RIVER

- Originates: Bitang Lake, Near Jelep La, Sikkim
- Located Boundary India and Bhutan
- Most of its path lies in India

### Teesta: Origin -

- Kangse glacier or Zemu glacier North Sikkim Kanchanjunga ranges
- forms the border between Sikkim and West Bengal;
- Rangeet river is the main tributary which originates in Sikkim;
- It merges with Brahmaputra before falling into the Bay of Bengal.

# [UPSC 2017] With reference to river Teesta, consider the following statements:

- The source of river Teesta is the same as that of Brahmaputra but it flows through Sikkim.
- 2. River Rangeet originates in Sikkim and it is a tributary of river Teesta.
- 3. River Teesta flows into Bay of Bengal on the border of India and Bangladesh.

# Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

#### Explanation

- The Teesta River is the main river in the state of Sikkim. It originates as the Chhombo Chhu from
  a frozen lake called Khangchung Chho. This lake is located where the Teesta Khangse glacier
  flows down from Pauhunri peak (which is about 7,056 meters high) towards the northwest.
- The Teesta River flows into the Bay of Bengal after entering Bangladesh, although not exactly on the border. It merges with the Brahmaputra River near Gaibandha in Bangladesh.

# Answer: b) 2 only

[UPSC 2011] The Brahmaputra, Irrawady and Mekong rivers originate in Tibet and flow through narrow and parallel mountain ranges in their upper reaches. Of these rivers, Brahmaputra makes a "U" turn in its course to flow into India. This "U" turn is due to

- a) Uplift of folded Himalayan series
- b) Syntaxial bending of geologically young Himalayas
- c) Geo-Tectonic disturbance in the tertiary folded mountain chains
- d) Both (a) and (b) above

# Explanation

- The Brahmaputra River, along with the other rivers (Irrawaddy, Mekong), originates in Tibet and flows through narrow and parallel mountain ranges in its upper reaches.
- However, unlike the others, the Brahmaputra makes a distinct "U" turn in its course. This peculiar feature is primarily due to the syntaxial bending of the geologically young Himalayas.
- Syntaxial bending refers to the bending or folding of rock layers due to tectonic forces.



Answer: b) Syntaxial bending of geologically young Himalayas

# **Cities located on Brahmaputra River**

The cities situated on the banks of the river Brahmaputra are given below:

- Pasighat,
- Dibrugarh,
- Neamati,
- Tezpur,
- Guwahati is the important urban centre on the river.
- Dhubri (Ninety degree southward turn)



Que: The Brahmaputra plains is charactierised by Humid climate with high temperature throughout the year. Which one among the following pairs of crops is most suitable for this region?

- a) Pineapple and cotton
- b) Wheat and Jute
- c) Paddy and Jute
- d) Cotton and Wheat

QWhich of the following is the left bank tributary of river Brahmaputra?

- 1. Kameng
- 2 Kapili
- 3 Dhansiri
- 4 Burhi Dihang or Dihing

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1 and 3
- b) 2,3 and 4
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) all of the above

# **Q** Consider the following Pairs

Protected Area: Rivers Flowing through the area

Ntanki National Park : Dhansiri River
 Pakke Tiger Reserve : Kameng River

3 Neora Valley National Park: Raidak River

Which of the above pairs is /are correctly matched?

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 3 only
- c) 2 and 3
- d) None

# Q Consider the following Pairs :

(River) (Origin)

1 Burhi Dihang: Patkai Bum

2 Dhansiri: Naga Hills

3 Kapili: Jaintia Hills

Select the Correct Code:

- a) 2 and 3
- b) 1 and 3
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) 1 only

Q Cherrapunji and Dampa Tiger Reserve Part of Whihc River Basin?

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