



Unit 6 Geography

Physical Geography of Tamil Nadu

Good Morning Students, today let us know about eastern ghats

The Eastern Ghats

- Unlike Western Ghats, Eastern Ghats is a discontinuous and irregular one.
- It is dissected at many places by the rivers, which drain into the Bay of Bengal.
- Its height ranges from 1,100 to 1,600 metres.
- These hills separate the plains from plateaus.
- Javadhu, Servarayan, the Kalrayan, Kollimalai and Pachaimalai are the major hills of the Eastern Ghats of Tamil Nadu and are located in northern districts of the state.

Javadhu Hills

- Javadhu hills are an extension of the Eastern Ghats spread across parts of Vellore and Tiruvannamalai districts and separates these two districts.
- Many peaks with the height of 1,100–1,150 metres are located in this range.
- Melpattu is its highest peak. Many parts of this range are covered with bluish grey granites.
- It is noted for its fruit bearing trees, medicinal herbs and sandalwoods.
- Due to illegal logging, sandalwood trees are disappeared now.

Kalvarayan Hills

- The name 'Kalvarayan' comes from the word 'Karalar', the ancient name of the present tribes.
- It is another major range of hills in the Eastern Ghats of Tamil Nadu.
- This range, along with the Pachaimalai, Aralvaimalai, Javadhu and Servarayan hills, separates the river basins of Cauvery and Palar.
- The height of this hill ranges from 600 to 1,220 metres.

Servarayan Hills

- It is a mountain range located near the Salem city with the height ranging from 1,200 to 1,620 metres.
- The name of the range comes from a local deity, Servarayan.

Peaks in Eastern Ghats	Height(m)
Shervarayan temple	1,623
Mazhamalai	1,500
Urgamalai	1,486
Kuttirayan	1,395
Muganur	1,279
Valsamalai	1,034



Major hills in Tamil Nadu

Districts	Hills
Coimbatore	Maruthamalai, Velliangiri and Anaimalai
Dharmapuri	Theertha malai, Chitteri and Vathalmalai
Dindigul	Pazhamalai and Kodaikanal
Erode	Chenni hills and Sivan hills
Vellore	Javadhu, Yelagiri and Rathinamalai hills Namakkal Kolli hills
Salem	Servarayan, Kanjamalai and Chalk hills
Kallakurichi	Kalvarayan
Villupuram	Gingee hills
Perambalur	Pachaimalai
Kanyakumari	Marunthuvazhmalai
Tirunelveli	Mahendragiri and Agasthiyarmalai
The Nilgiris	Nilgiri hills

- The highest peak in the southern part of the Eastern Ghats is located in this range.
- The peak is Solaikaradu and its height is 1,620 metres.
- The hill station Yercaud, which is known as poor man's Ooty, is located on this range. Servarayan temple is its highest point (1623 metres).

Kolli Hills

- It is a small mountain range located in Namakkal district.
- It covers an area of about 2,800 sq.km. It rises up to 1300 metres.
- This is a mountain range that runs almost parallel to the east coast of South India.
- Arpaleeswarar temple located on this range is an important pilgrim centre.
- It has the largest cover of evergreen or shola forest when compared to other parts of the Eastern Ghats. Several coffee plantations, fruits, flowers and silver-oak estates are found in this region.

Pachaimalai

- It is the lowest hill range, spreads over the districts of Perambalur, Tiruchirapalli and Salem.
- In Tamil language, pachai means green.
- The vegetation in this range is greener than the vegetative cover of the other hills in this region.
- Hence it is named as 'Pachai malai'. Jackfruit is a popular seasonal agricultural product of this hills.

Plateaus

- Plateaus of Tamil Nadu are located between the Western Ghats and the Eastern Ghats.
- It is roughly triangular in shape and covers an area of about 60,000 sq.km.



- Bharamahal plateau is a part of the Mysore plateau situated in the northwestern part of Tamil Nadu.
- Its height ranges from 350 to 710 metres. Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri districts are located in this region.
- Coimbatore plateau lies between the Nilgiris and Dharmapuri districts.
- Its height varies from 150 to 450 metres.
- This region includes Salem, Coimbatore and Erode districts.
- Moyar river separates this plateau from the Mysore plateau.
- Rivers like Bhavani, Noyyal and Amaravathi, which originate from Western Ghats, form valleys in this region.
- Many intermontane plateaus are found in the region of the Nilgiris. Sigur plateau is one such plateau. Madurai plateau found in Madurai district extends up to the foothills of the Western Ghats.
- Vaigai and Thamirabarani basins are located in this zone.



<https://youtu.be/chV1jIhmxF4?t=31>