



# RSMSSB – JE

Rajasthan Subordinate and Ministerial Services Selection Board

Volume - 1

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Geography & Polity of Rajasthan



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# 1 CHAPTER

## General Introduction of Rajasthan

Rajasthan is the largest state since 1 november 2000 in India by area followed by MP, Maharashtra and UP. Shape of Rajasthan as per TH Handley: Rhombus or similar to a kite.

Capital: Jaipur

Districts: 41

Divisions: 7

Area: 3,42,239 Sq km (10.41% of India's Area)

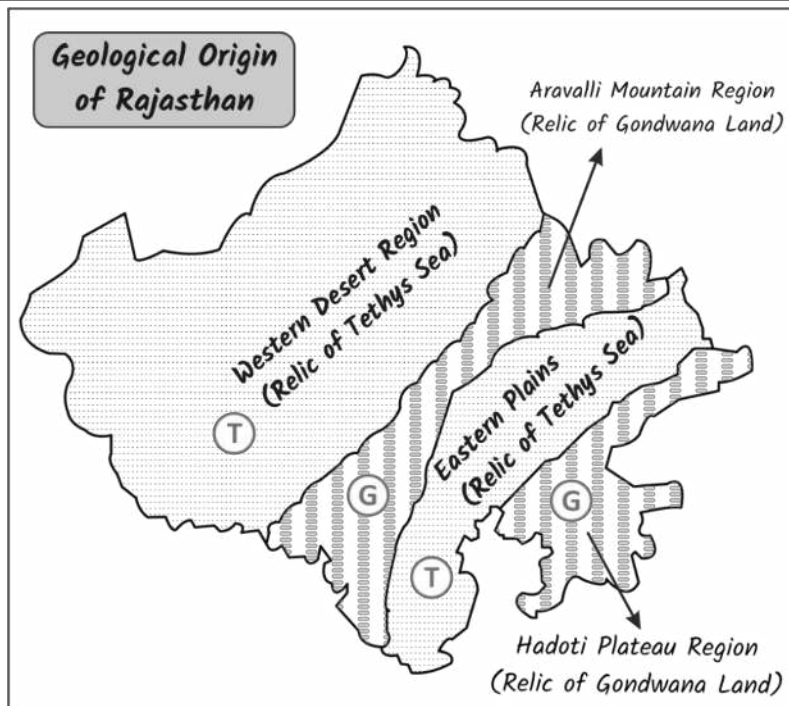
➤ According to the 2011 census

- ✓ **Total population:** 6,85,48,437 (5.67% of the India's population); Ranks seventh in the country in terms of population.

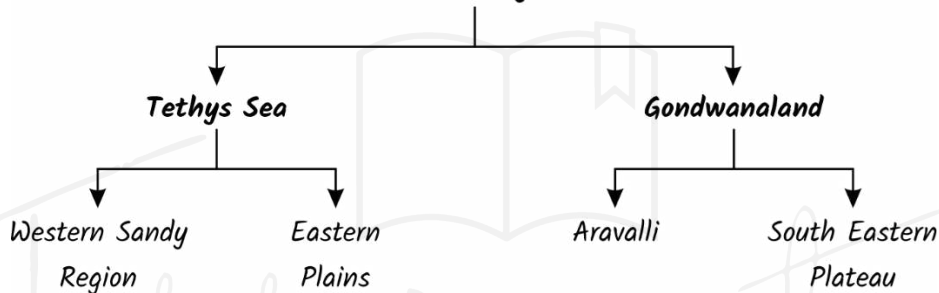
State Symbol	Name	Scientific Name	Year of Declaration
State Tree	Khejri	<i>Prosopis cineraria</i>	31 Oct 1983
State Flower	Rohida Flower	<i>Tecomella undulata</i>	31 Oct 1983
State Animal (Wild)	Chinkara (Indian Gazelle)	<i>Gazella bennettii</i>	12 Dec 1983
State Animal (Livestock)	Camel	<i>Camelus dromedarius</i>	Sept 2014 (Declared State Livestock)
State Bird	Godawan (Great Indian Bustard)	<i>Ardeotis nigriceps</i>	21 May 1982
State Sport	Basketball	—	1948
State Dance	Ghoomar	—	Not officially declared; traditional dance
State Song	Kesariya Balam	—	Not officially declared; traditional/Folk Song

### 1. Geological Origin of Rajasthan

- Rajasthan's geological structure is uniquely distinct from other Indian states. It is formed from Gondwanaland and Tethys Sea.



### Formation of Rajasthan



## 2. Geographical Location of Rajasthan

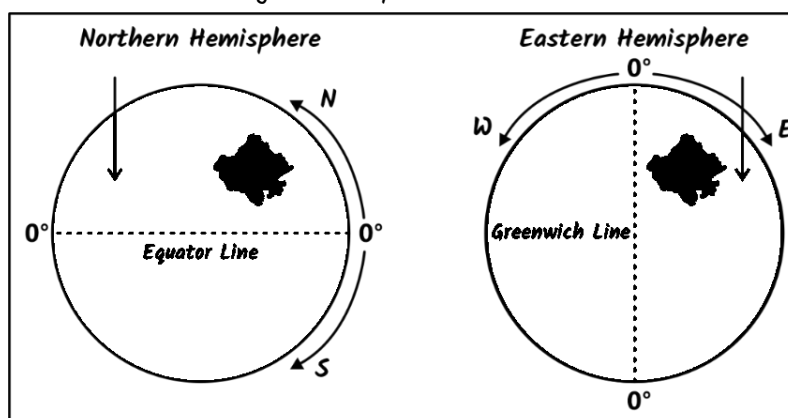
Latitude: 23°03'N to 30°12'N

Longitude: 69° 30'E to 78°17'E

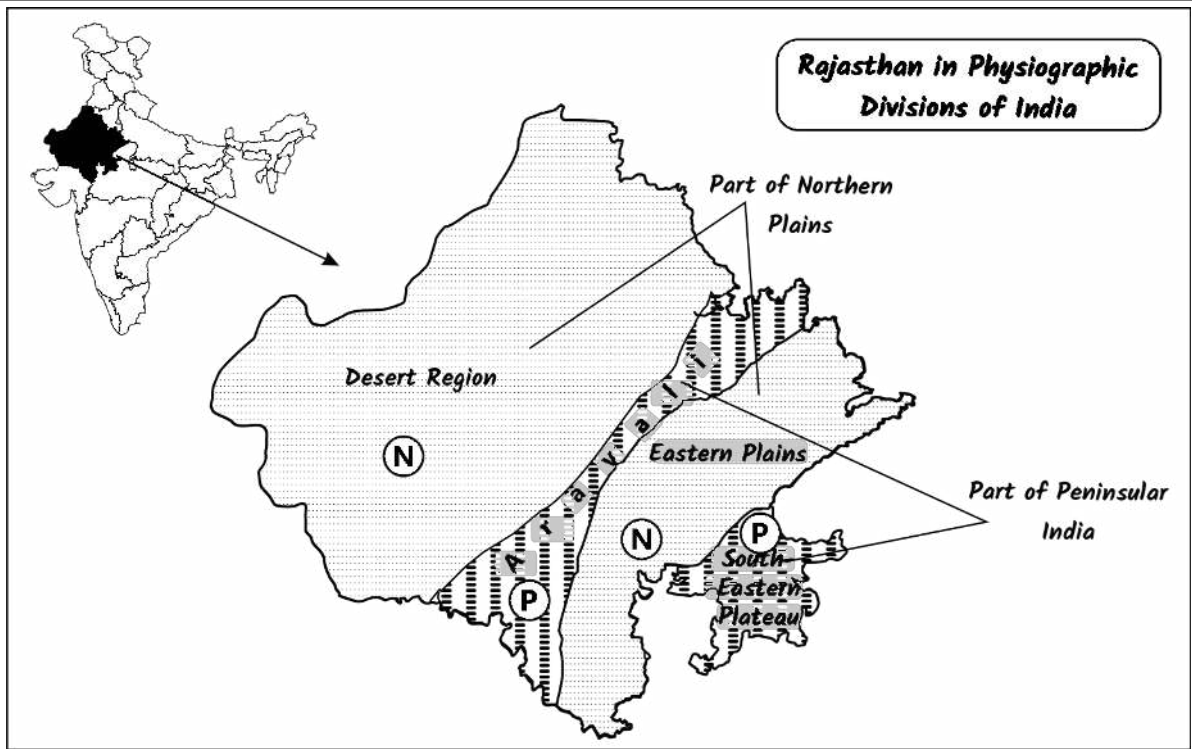
Latitude Gap: 7°09'

Longitude Gap: 8°47'

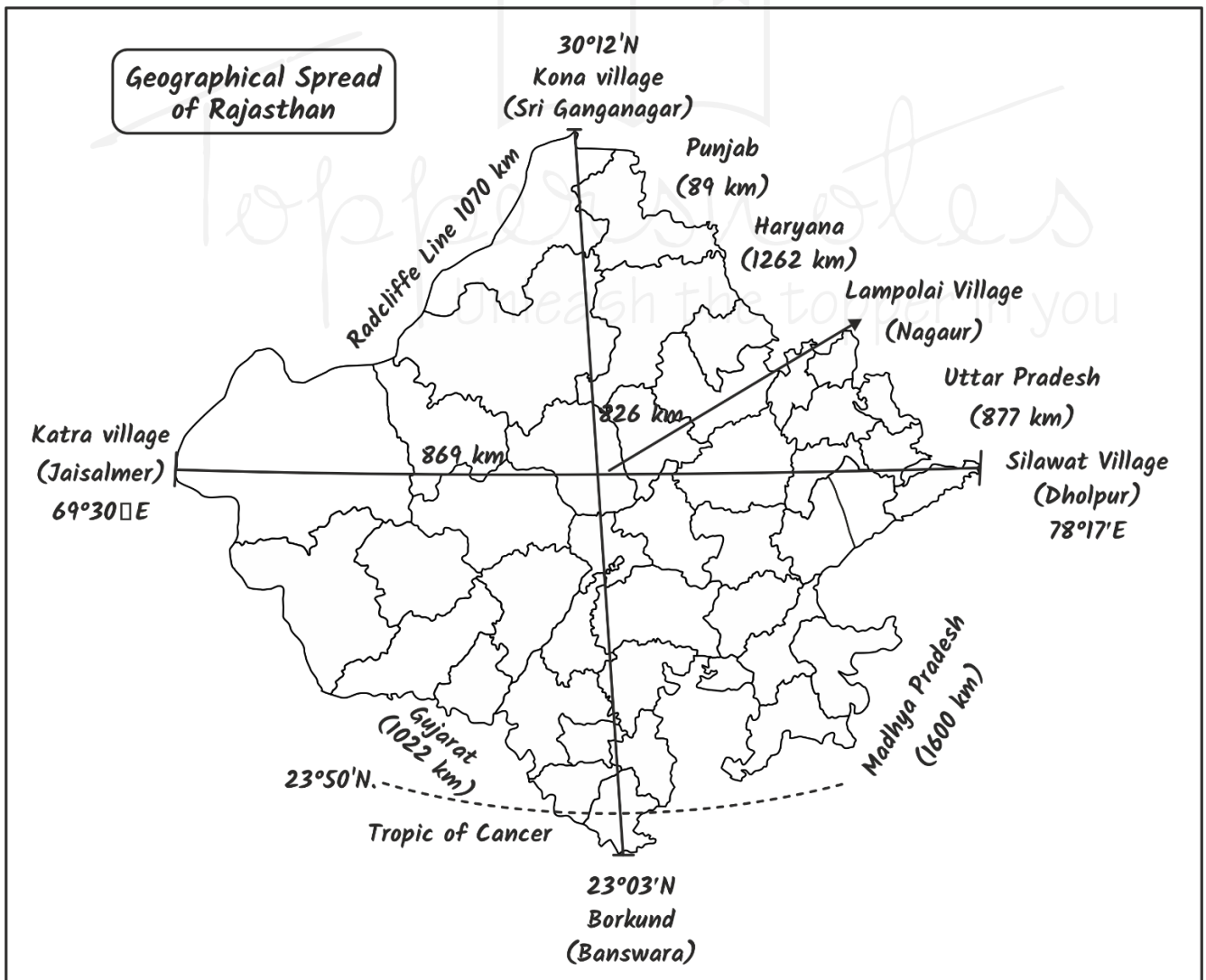
- Rajasthan lies in the Northern Hemisphere by latitude and the Eastern Hemisphere by longitude, placing it in the North-East on the global map.



- Rajasthan is positioned in the North-West region of India.
- The Aravallis and the southeastern plateau are part of the Peninsular Plateau of India. The desert and the eastern plain are part of the Northern Plains.



### Geographical Spread of Rajasthan

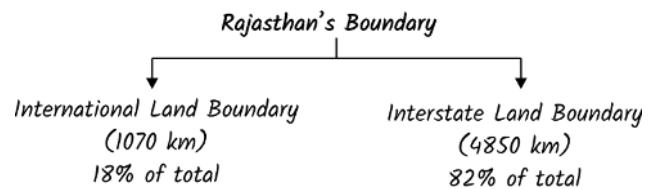


- Major part of Rajasthan lies North of the Tropic of Cancer ( $23^{\circ}50'N$ ).
- Expanse of Rajasthan
  - ✓ North to South (Longitude): 826 km
  - ✓ East to West (Latitude): 869 km
- The difference in length between Rajasthan's east-west and north-south dimensions is 43 km.
- The time difference between Dholpur (easternmost point) and Jaisalmer (westernmost point) is 35 min 08 sec.
- Extreme Points of Rajasthan
  - ✓ Northernmost: Kona (Sri Ganganagar)
  - ✓ Southernmost: Borkund (Banswara)
  - ✓ Westernmost: Katra (Jaisalmer)
  - ✓ Easternmost: Silawat (Dholpur)
- Central point of Rajasthan: Lampolai village (Nagaur).

- The Tropic of Cancer (26 km) passes through the Banswara and Dungarpur districts of Rajasthan.

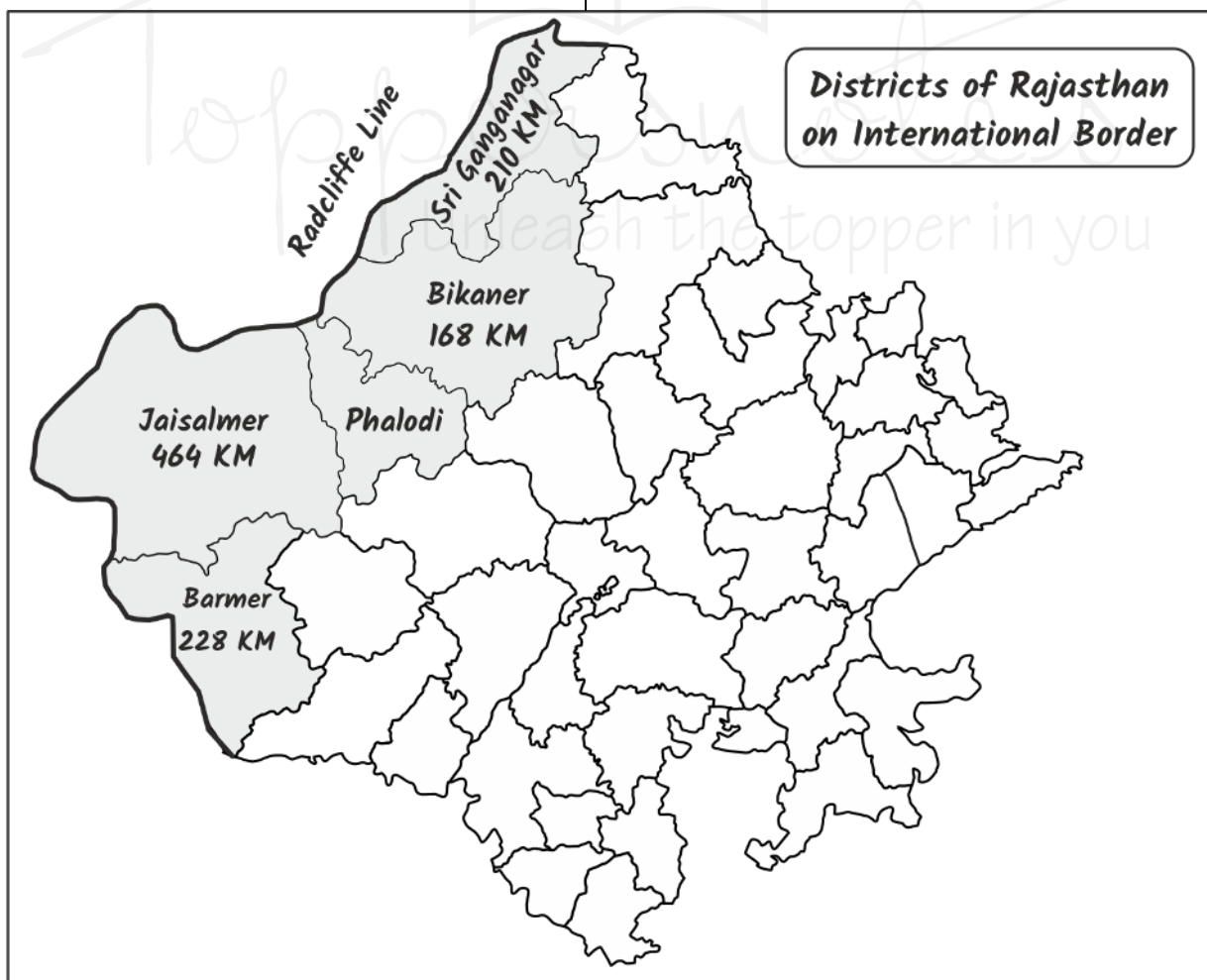
### **Boundary Extension of Rajasthan**

- The total length of Rajasthan's land boundary is 5,920 km. Rajasthan's boundary line is divided into two parts -

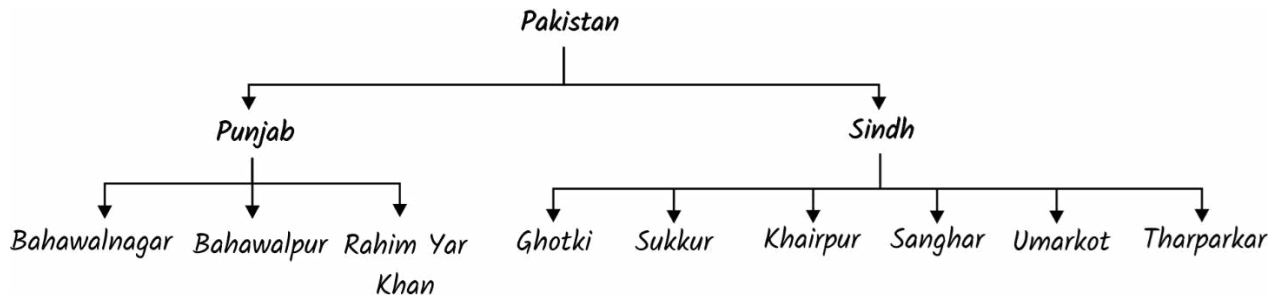


#### **(i) International Land Boundary**

- The India-Pakistan border, known as the Radcliffe Line decided on 17/08/1947, spans 3,323 km (Rajasthan 1070 km). It extends from Hindumal Kot (Sri Ganganagar) to Shahgarh (Barmer).



➤ Provinces of Pakistan that border Rajasthan - Punjab and Sindh



**(ii) Interstate Land Boundary**

➤ The total length of Rajasthan's interstate land boundary is **4,850 km** (bordering 5 Indian states).

Neighboring States of Rajasthan	Districts	Bordering Districts of Rajasthan
Punjab (89 km)	2	Sri Ganganagar, Hanumangarh
Haryana (1262 km)	8	Hanumangarh, Churu, Jhunjhunu, Sikar, Kotputli-Behror, Khairthal-Tijara (Proposed Name – Bharthari Nagar), Alwar and Deeg
Uttar Pradesh (877 km)	3	Deeg, Bharatpur, Dholpur
Madhya Pradesh (1600 km)	10	Dholpur, Karauli, Sawai Madhopur, Kota, Baran, Jhalawar (Longest border with any state), Chittorgarh, Bhilwara, Pratapgarh and Banswara
Gujarat (1022 km)	6	Banswara, Dungarpur, Udaipur, Sirohi, Jalore and Barmer (Smallest border with any state)

**Important Facts (Only with reference to Rajasthan)**

- Jaisalmer has the longest boundary on the Radcliffe Line.
- The district headquarters located **closest to the international border** - **Shri Ganganagar**
- The district headquarters located **farthest from the international border (within the state)** - **Bikaner**

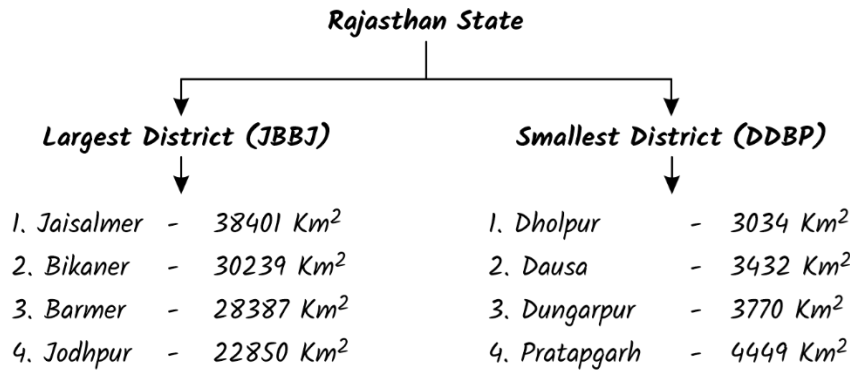


Chittorgarh

- On the international border, the **longest border** is of **Jaisalmer**.
- Currently, Chittorgarh is the only fragmented district (Ajmer ceased to be one after reorganization)
- Border Dispute - Ongoing dispute between Rajasthan and Gujarat over Mangarh (Banswara)
- Total number of bordering districts- - 28
- Districts with only international borders - 3 (Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Phalodi)
- Districts having inter-state borders: 25
- Districts with both interstate and international borders- 2 (Sriganganagar, Barmer)

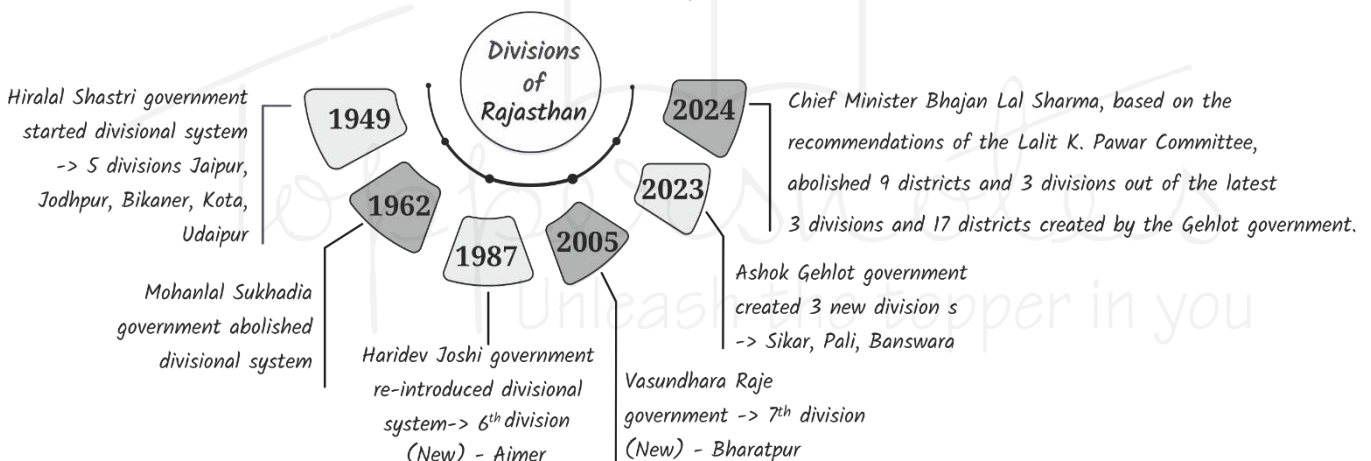
- Districts with only interstate borders- 23
- Districts having international borders: 5 (Shri Ganganagar, Barmer, Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Phalodi)
- 13 districts don't share a border with any state or country.

- 4 districts of Rajasthan share borders with two states
  - a. Hanumangarh: Punjab + Haryana
  - b. Deeg: Haryana + Uttar Pradesh
  - c. Dholpur: Uttar Pradesh + Madhya Pradesh
  - d. Banswara: Madhya Pradesh + Gujarat



### 3. Divisions and Districts of Rajasthan

- On March 17, 2023, Chief Minister Shri Ashok Gehlot announced the creation of **3 new divisions** and **19 new districts** based on the **Ramlubhaya Committee's** recommendations.



- **New Divisions** - Sikar, Banswara, Pali
- Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma, based on the recommendations of the Lalit K. Pawar Committee (**Working period:** 29 June 2024 to 31 August 2024 and **Report submission:** 31 December 2024), abolished 9 districts (Jaipur Rural, Jodhpur Rural, Neem Ka Thana, Gangapur City, Sanchore, Dudu, Kekri, Shahpura, and Anupgarh) and 3 divisions (Pali, Banswara, and Sikar) out of the 17 districts and 3 divisions created by the Gehlot government.

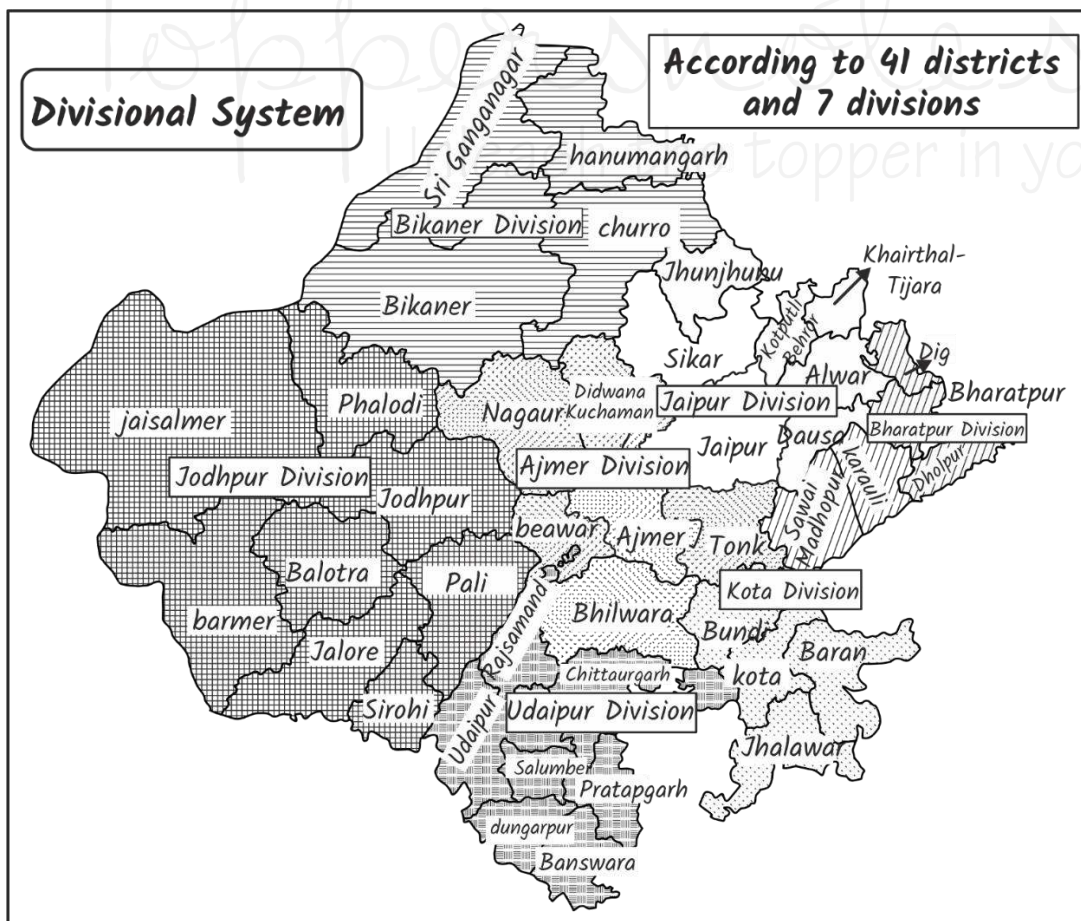
S. No.	New District	Parent District(s)	Formation Date
27 <sup>th</sup>	Dholpur	Bharatpur	15 April 1982
28 <sup>th</sup>	Baran	Kota	10 April 1991
29 <sup>th</sup>	Dausa	Jaipur	10 April 1991
30 <sup>th</sup>	Rajsamand	Udaipur	10 April 1991

31st	Hanumangarh	Sri Ganganagar	12 July 1994
32nd	Karauli	Sawai Madhopur	19 July 1997
33rd	Pratapgarh	Chittorgarh, Udaipur, Banswara	26 Jan. 2008
34th	Balotra	Barmer	7 August 2023
35th	Beawar	Ajmer, Pali, Rajsamand, Bhilwara	7 August 2023
36th	Deeg	Bharatpur	7 August 2023
37th	Didwana–Kuchaman	Nagaur	7 August 2023
38th	Kotputli–Behror (Proposed Name – Bharthari Nagar)	Jaipur & Alwar	7 August 2023
39th	Khairthal–Tijara	Alwar	7 August 2023
40th	Phalodi	Jodhpur & Jaisalmer	7 August 2023
41st	Salumbar	Udaipur	7 August 2023

➤ If districts **share** the same formation date, they are listed alphabetically (A → Z).

### Formation of Committee for New Districts and Divisions:

- Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma constituted a Cabinet Sub-Committee for reviewing and managing the formation of new districts and divisions.
- **Composition of the Committee:**
  - ✓ **Convener:** Madan Dilawar (Previously Premchand Bairwa)
- **Members:** Hemant Meena, Kanhaiyalal Chaudhary, Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore and Suresh Singh Rawat. Now, the total number of districts is 41, and the total number of divisions is 7.



S.No.	Division	Establishment Year	Districts
1	Jodhpur	1949	Jodhpur, Phalodi, Jaisalmer, Barmer, Balotra, Pali, Jalore, Sirohi ( <b>8 districts</b> )
2	Bikaner	1949	Bikaner, Churu, Hanumangarh, Ganganagar ( <b>4 districts</b> )
3	Udaipur	1949	Udaipur, Rajsamand, Chittorgarh, Salumber, Banswara, Dungarpur, Pratapgarh ( <b>7 districts</b> )
4	Kota	1949	Kota, Bundi, Baran, Jhalawar ( <b>4 districts</b> )
5	Jaipur	1949	Jaipur, Kotputli-Bahrod, Dausa, Kherthal-Tijara (Bharthari Nagar), Alwar, Sikar, Jhunjhunu ( <b>7 districts</b> )
6	Ajmer	1987	Ajmer, Beawar, Nagaur, Tonk, Didwana-Kuchaman, Bhilwara ( <b>6 districts</b> )
7	Bharatpur	2005	Bharatpur, Dholpur, Karauli, Sawai Madhopur, Deeg ( <b>5 districts</b> )

➤ At present, Rajasthan ranks **third** in the country in terms of the highest number of districts after Uttar Pradesh (75) and Madhya Pradesh (55).

### Major Characteristics Related to Divisions of Rajasthan

#### (A) By Area

- ✓ **Largest Division:** Jodhpur
- ✓ **Smallest Division:** Bharatpur (Next smallest: Kota)

#### (B) By Number of Districts

- ✓ **Highest Number of Districts:** Jaipur (8), Udaipur (7)
- ✓ **Lowest Number of Districts:** Kota and Bikaner (4 each)

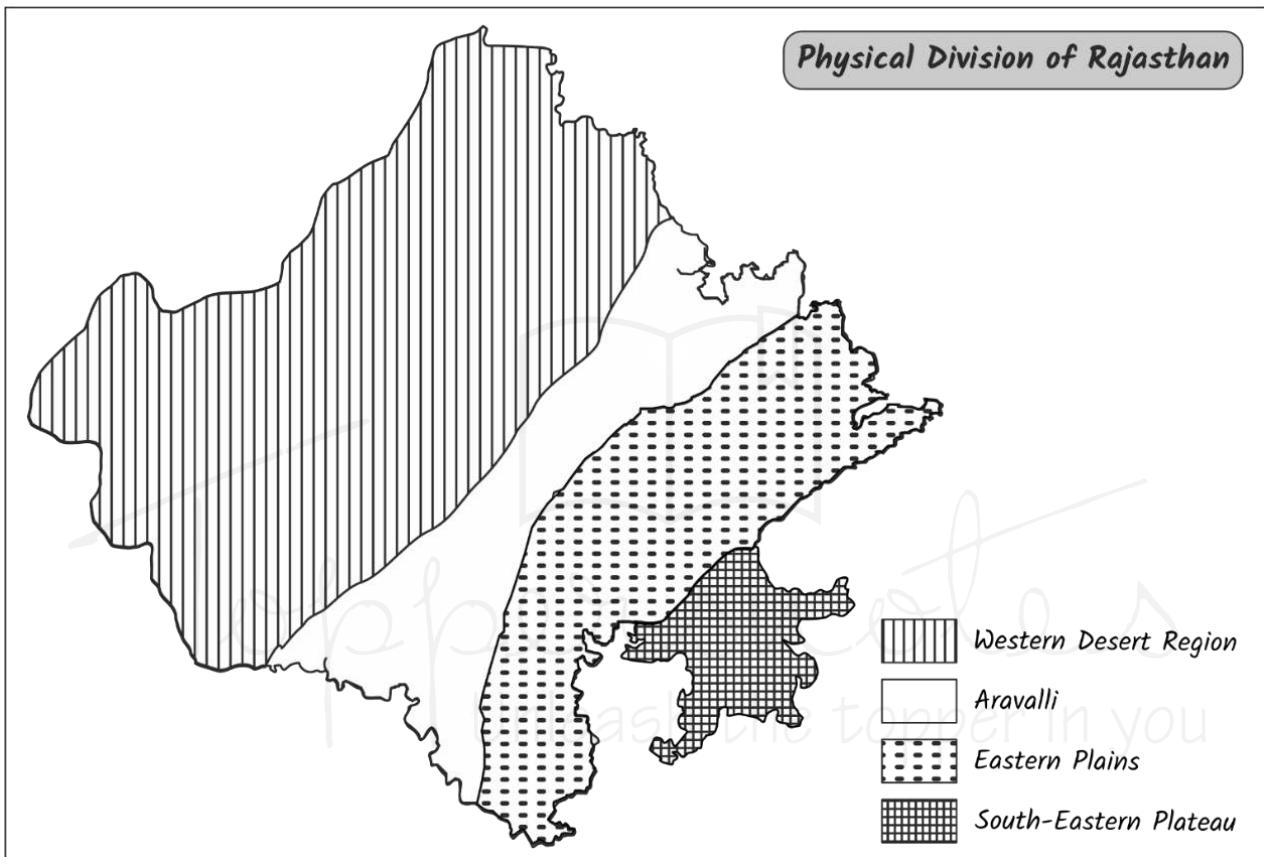
#### (C) By Population

- ✓ **Most Populous Division:** Jaipur
- ✓ **Least Populous Division:** Kota

# 2 CHAPTER

## Physiography of Rajasthan

- Rajasthan is a land of huge physiographic diversity, encompassing from mountains, plateaus, plains and deserts.
- Rajasthan can be divided into the following four physical divisions on the basis of physiographic factors (relief and climate)-



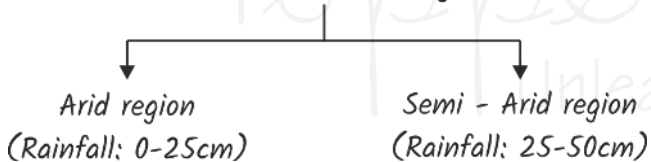
<b>Physical Divisions of Rajasthan</b>				
	<b>Western Desert Region (Marusthal)</b>	<b>Aravalli Mountain Region</b>	<b>Eastern Plains Region</b>	<b>South Eastern Plateau Region</b>
Area	61.11%	9%	23%	6.89%
Population	40%	10%	39%	11%
District	20	22	17	7
Divisions	1. Arid Desert region 2. Semi -arid desert region	1. Northern Aravalli Region 2. Central Aravalli Region 3. South Aravalli Region	1. Chambal Basin Region 2. Banas Basin Region 3. Mahi Basin Region	1. Vindhyan Scarpland 2. Deccan Lava Plateau 3. Hadoti Plateau

Formation	Quaternary period, Pleistocene epoch and Cenozoic era.	Pre-Cambrian period	Pleistocene epoch	Cretaceous period
Climate	Arid + Semi -arid	Sub -Humid	Humid	Very humid
Rainfall (cm)	0-20 + 20-40	40-60	60-80	80-120
Vegetation (Koppen)	Xerophytes, Thorny and Steppe	Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests	Dry Deciduous and Mixed Thorny Forests	Moist Deciduous Forests
Soil	Sandy	Mountain/Forest Soil	Alluvial Soil	Black /Regur Soil

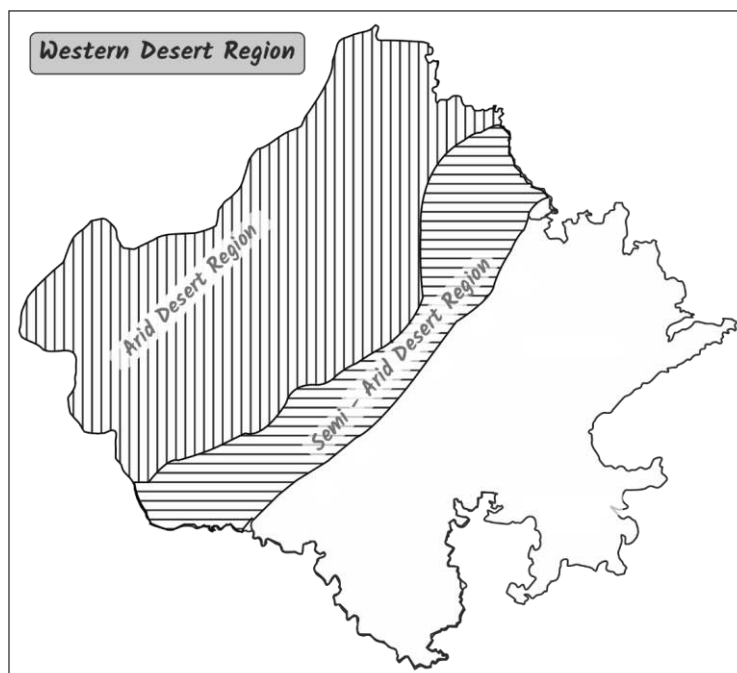
## 1. Western Desert Region

- Located in the north and north-western parts of Rajasthan, it is the youngest physical division. It is considered a remnant of the Tethys Sea.
- General Slope: From North east to south-west.
- Western boundary of this region is marked by Radcliffe line and eastern boundary is demarcated by Aravalli region.

### Western Desert Region



- Due to the predominance of tertiary sedimentary rocks, fossil fuels such as coal, petroleum, limestone, natural gas etc. are found in this region.
- It contains both conventional energy resources and non-conventional energy resources. Therefore, it is also called the "Power House of the World".
- Xerophytic vegetation is found here.
- The Chandan Tubewell, located in this region, is famously called the "Thar ka Ghada".
- Based on rainfall (with a 25 cm isohyet), Rajasthan's desert is divided into the following two regions-



## Arid Desert Region

### Thar Desert (4 States)



- This region experiences an **arid, tropical desert climate**.
- It is also called **Thar desert**. About 85% of Thar desert is located in India and the remaining 15% in Pakistan (called Cholistan there). 62% (1,75,000 sq km) of the desert lies in Rajasthan then Gujarat then Haryana then Punjab. Desert in Rajasthan, accounts for a length of 640 km, breath of 300 km and height of 200-300 meter.

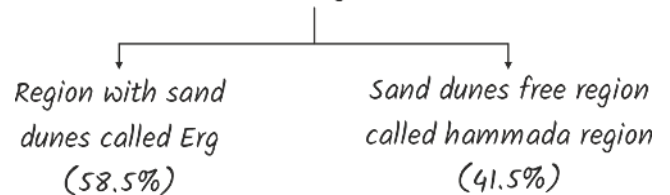
### (i) Regions with sand dunes

- In the western desert region, undulating landforms formed by wind-blown sand deposits are called sand dunes. Only river of this region - Kankani/Masurdi river
- The **wave-like sandy formations** are called "**Dhoras**" in local Rajasthani

language, whereas **stationary or moving sand formations** are called "**Dhrisyans.**"

- ✓ In Rajasthan, the largest number of sand dunes (**Dhoras**) are found in Jaisalmer.
- ✓ Whereas, **all types of dunes** are observed in Jodhpur district.

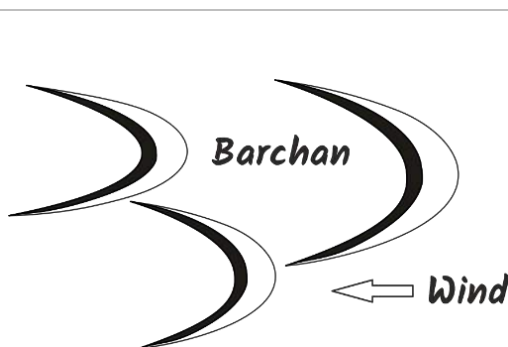
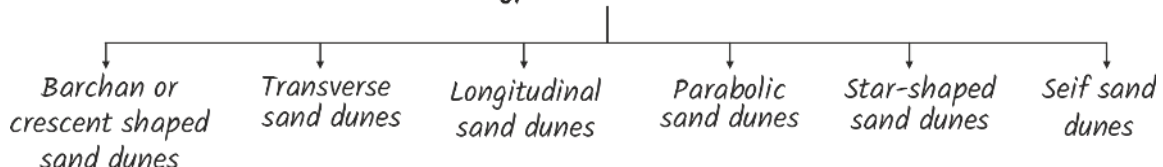
### Types of Sand Dunes - Arid Region



### Types of Sand Dunes (According to McKee, 1979)

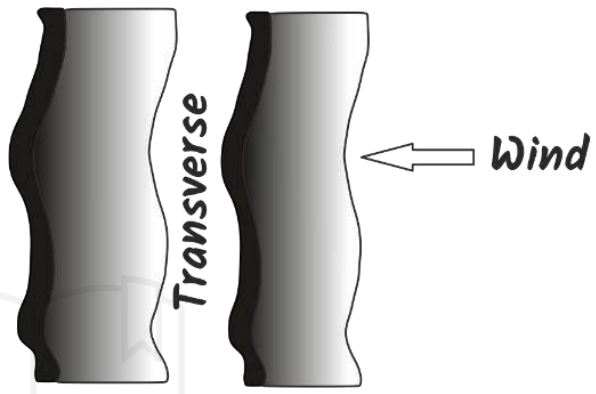
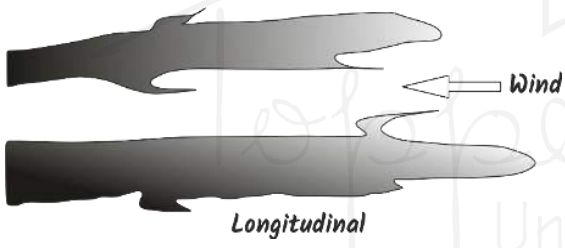
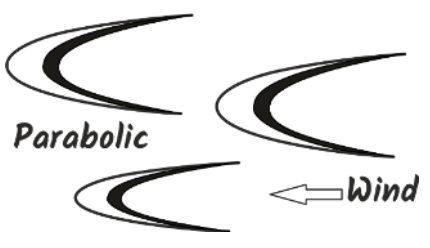
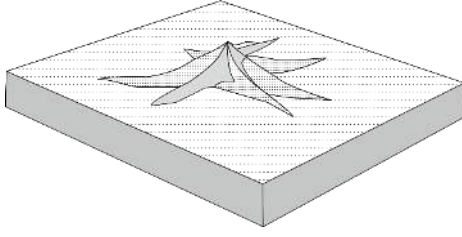
1. Barchan Dune
2. Transverse Dune
3. Longitudinal Dune
4. Parabolic Dune
5. Star Dune
6. Tarantula (Seif) Dune (also called Linear or Longitudinal Dune)
7. Complex / Compound Dune
8. Network Dune
9. Reverted (Reversed) Dune

### Types of Sand Dunes



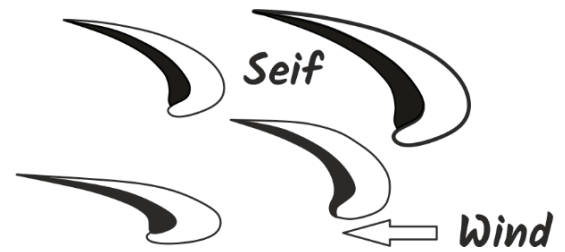
### ➤ Barchan or Crescent shaped sand dunes

- ✓ These crescent shaped sand dunes that are found in clusters.
- ✓ They form in desert regions where the wind blows from the same direction throughout the year.
- ✓ They are the most common sand dunes in Rajasthan.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ They have gentle windward slopes and steep leeward slopes.</li> <li>✓ Maximum: Churu (Bhalogi), Jaisalmer (Ramgarh), Phalodi, Bikaner (Deshnok), Jodhpur (Osiya) etc</li> <li>✓ Mainly found in the area between the 20-35 cm isohyet line, mainly in the western desert region</li> <li>✓ Maximum contribution to desertification</li> </ul>
<p>➤ <b>Transverse Sand Dunes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ When sand deposition occurs perpendicular (at right angles) to the wind direction, the resulting landform is called transverse sand dune.</li> <li>✓ Mostly found at Jodhpur, Bikaner (Phugal), Sri ganganager (Suratgarh), Hanumangarh (Rawatsar), Churu, Jhunjhunu.</li> </ul>	 <p>The diagram shows two sand dunes with a wavy, transverse profile. An arrow labeled 'Wind' points from the right towards the dunes. The word 'Transverse' is written vertically between the two dunes.</p>
 <p>The diagram shows two long, narrow sand dunes with a longitudinal profile. An arrow labeled 'Wind' points from the right towards the dunes. The word 'Longitudinal' is written below the dunes.</p>	<p>➤ <b>Longitudinal/ Linear Sand Dunes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ When soil gets deposited parallel to wind direction, this type of sand dunes are formed.</li> <li>✓ These dunes are typically found near basins of Luni, Jawai and Ghaghar, and commonly found in Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Barmer and Suratgarh.</li> </ul>
<p>➤ <b>Parabolic Sand Dunes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Sand dunes that are found opposite to barchan sand dunes.</li> <li>✓ Their shape resembles a hairpin.</li> <li>✓ They form between areas of vegetation and flat plains.</li> <li>✓ Maximum found in Rajasthan state.</li> </ul>	 <p>The diagram shows three parabolic sand dunes with a U-shaped profile. An arrow labeled 'Wind' points from the right towards the dunes. The word 'Parabolic' is written above the dunes.</p>
 <p>The diagram shows a 3D perspective of a star-shaped sand dune with multiple arms radiating from a central peak.</p>	<p>➤ <b>Star-shaped Sand Dunes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ These sand dunes are formed by irregular winds.</li> <li>✓ Such dunes are most commonly found in Jaisalmer, Suratgarh, and Bikaner</li> </ul>

### ➤ **Seif Sand Dunes**

- ✓ When the wind direction changes during the formation of barchan, then one arm of barchan gets extended and forms seif sand dune.
- ✓ Also called Longitudinal seif dune.



### **Network Sand Dunes (Netvak Baluya Sthup)**

- The sand dunes that are **interconnected or joined with each other** are called **Network Dunes (Netvak Baluya Sthup)**.
- These dunes are found **mostly in Jaisalmer, Bikaner, Jodhpur**, and extend up to **Hisar-Bhiwani (Haryana)**.

### **Reverted (Reversed) Dune**

- The dunes formed due to **obstruction caused by the Aravalli hills** are known as **Reverted (Reversed) Sand Dunes (Avarodhi Baluya Sthup)**.
- These dunes are formed on both sides of the Aravalli hills, particularly **on the leeward (western) and windward (eastern) sides**.
- Such dunes are also found in **Shekhawati region**, hence they are sometimes referred to as **Shekhawati-type dunes**.
- These dunes are **stationary (fixed)** in nature, as they are covered with **vegetation and coarse sand particles**.

### **Ghoraus Dune:**

When Sand Dunes gather in a large group covering maybe hundreds or thousands kilometers, they're are called "Ghoraus" in Egyptian Western desert. They are not found in Thar desert.

### **Major Locations:**

- Pushkar, Badgu Pahad, Nag Pahad (Ajmer),
- Bichun Pahad (Jaipur),
- Jawaner (Jaipur),
- Sikar-Khandela-Kundman hills, etc.

### **NOTE**

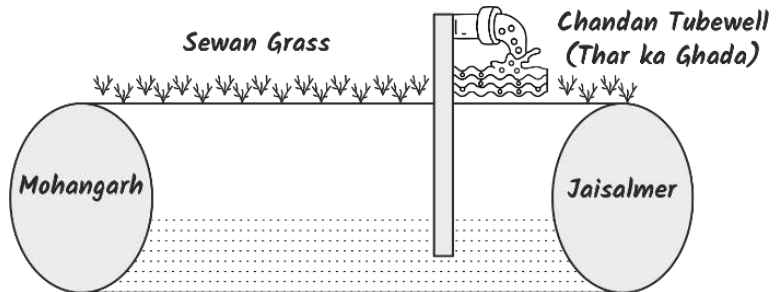
- Sand dunes that form around vegetation or back side of bushes is called Nebkhal Shrub coppice.
- All types of sand dunes are found in Jodhpur.

### **(ii) Sand Dune Free Region**

- This region is covered with sedimentary rocks and due to presence of rocky desert it is called 'Hammada'. Its maximum expansion is in Jaisalmer.
- The National Desert Park (Akal Wood Fossil Park) of Jaisalmer is located here.
- Akal Wood Fossil Park: Fossils of ancient whales, shark teeth, crocodile teeth, and turtle bones have been discovered in Banda village in Jaisalmer district. This discovery was made by Devashish Bhattacharya, Krishna Kumar, and Pragya Pandey. Age: 47 million years.
- The region is made of limestone, and at 'Sanu'(Jaisalmer) best quality of limestone is mined here.

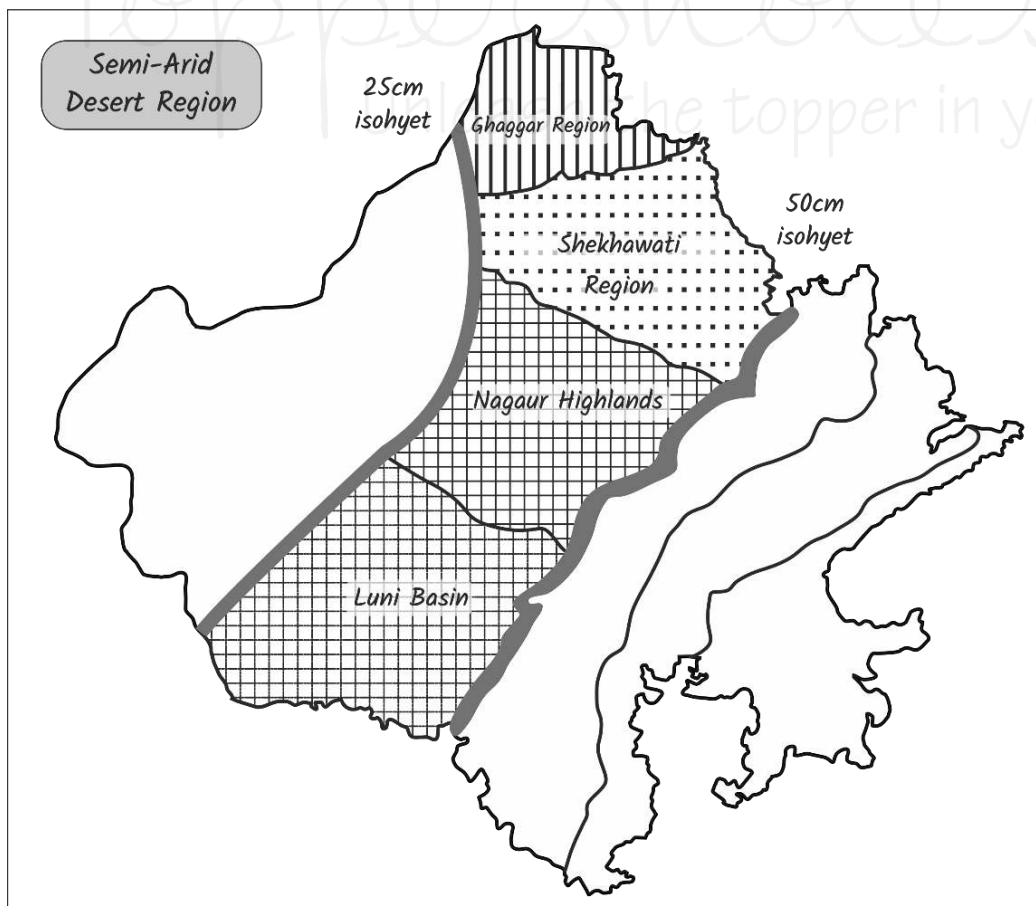
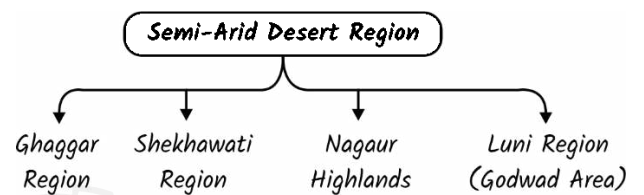
## NOTE

- **Lathi Series Area** - An underground water belt found in sedimentary rocks, stretching from Jaisalmer to Mohangarh (through Pokaran). Sewan grasslands are found here which is highly nutritious for animals and nesting site of Godavan bird.
- **Reg** - mixed terrain of rocky & sandy desert is called reg.
- **Erg** - It is a broad, flat area of desert covered in sand swept by the wind with little or no vegetative cover. Also known as sand sea / sand sheet / dunes sea.



## Semi-Arid Desert Region

- This region is located to the east of the arid desert region and west of the Aravalli hills, within the drainage basin of the Luni River. It is an area of inland drainage.
- It lies between 25 - 50 cm isohyet line. Average annual rainfall: 20-40 cm. It is characterized by thorny bushes and tropical grasslands.
- It is also called 'Bangar region' as it is made of old alluvial soil.
- It is divided into the following four parts -



### **(i) Ghaggar Region**

- The drainage basin of the Ghaggar river includes districts such as Sri Ganganagar, Hanumangarh.
- A loamy and fertile soil found in this basin is called Kathi / Baggi.
- In Hanumangarh, the Ghaggar River's channels or stream are locally known as Nali or Paat.
- **Main crops:** Wheat, Rice, Cotton, Sugarcane, and Barley.
- Archaeological sites like Rang Mahal, Kalibangan, Pilibanga are found here.
- The presence of the Indira Gandhi Canal Project (IGNP) in this region has led to a significant problem of waterlogging.

### **(ii) Shekhawati Region**

- Named after the Shekhawat Rajputs, the Shekhawati region is located in the northern part of Rajasthan encompassing Sikar, Jhunjhunu and Churu districts. It is also called Bangar region or Bangar Pradesh.
- Here the average height is 450 meter.
- Major rivers - Kantli and Khandela. The drainage area of Kantli is called 'Torawati'.
- The highest peak of the Northern Aravallis, Raghunathgarh, is located here.
- The Shekhawati region is an important part of Rajasthan in terms of mineral resources, with metallic minerals like copper, iron, pyrite, and atomic minerals like uranium being found here.
- Maximum concentration of sand dunes (especially the barchan sand dunes).

### **NOTE**

- ✓ In this region, areas where rainwater collects amidst sand dunes are called "Sar" or "Sarovar". Example Manasar, Salasar etc.
- ✓ Wells are constructed for water access, known locally as Johad.
- ✓ Pasture lands are called Beed in the local language.

### **(iii) Nagauri Highlands**

- South of Shekhawati region, the central part of Bangar region is known as the Nagaur highland (300-500 meters), Mostly flat area.
- It is the most affected by fluoride contamination, leading to prevalence of fluorosis disease. Hence, it is also called "Hump/Banka Belt".
- Due to the high salt content in the soil, the area is barren and sandy.
- It is famous for minerals like tungsten and marble. It is also known for its brine/salt water lakes-
  - ✓ Sambhar
  - ✓ Didwana
  - ✓ Kuchaman

### **(iv) Luni Region (Godwad Basin)**

- Southern most part of the semi-arid desert, extending across the districts of Pali, Jalore, Balotra, Sirohi, jalor, Jodhpur, Beawar and the southern parts of Nagaur.
- The plain formed by the Luni river and its tributaries. The water of the Luni river remains sweet until Balotra, after which it turns salty.

➤ **Important Sites:**

- ✓ Siwana Hills (Balotra)
- ✓ Rann of Nehar (Jalore)
- ✓ Kala Bhura Dungar (Pali)

➤ Largest dam in this region: Jawai Dam (Pali) on the tributary of Luni river.

Important Irrigation Project: Narmada Irrigation Project.

- Jawai Lake, also known as Ummed Sagar Lake, is also located in this region.
- The Rohi Plains (fertile plains dispersed in this region) are found here.

➤ **Feature**

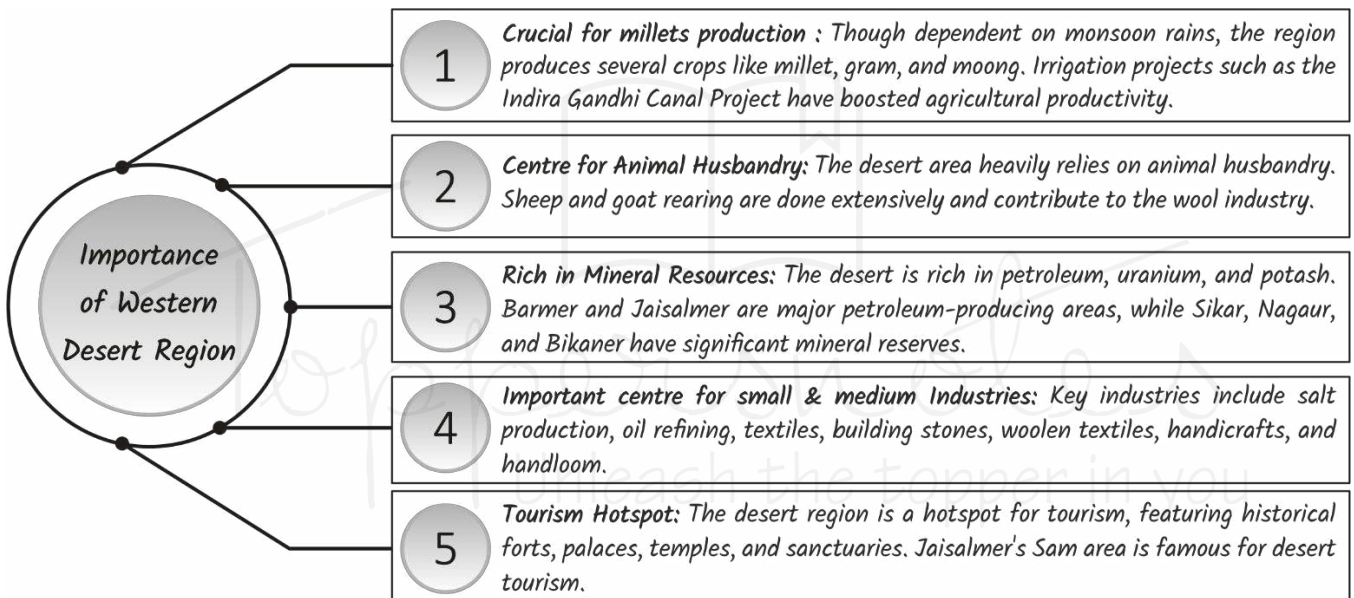
- ✓ Nehad Ran
- ✓ Lathurian Deposits
- ✓ Rohi
- ✓ Bajada
- ✓ Inselberg

➤ **Description**

- ✓ Salt flat in Luni Basin
- ✓ Clay-saline deposits
- ✓ Uplands between Luni & Aravalli
- ✓ Gently sloping piedmont plains
- ✓ Isolated rocky hills after erosion

➤ **Example Area**

- ✓ Jalore
- ✓ Balotra
- ✓ Pali-Jodhpur
- ✓ Barmer, Jaisalmer
- ✓ Jaisalmer, Barmer



**Important Terminologies related to Desert**

**1. Khadeen/Playa/Dhands Lakes**

- Temporary lakes are called Khadeen/Playa lakes in northern Jaisalmer formed by wind action (aeolian processes).
- In these lakes khadeen agriculture was started by Paliwal Brahmins.

**2. Rann/Taat**

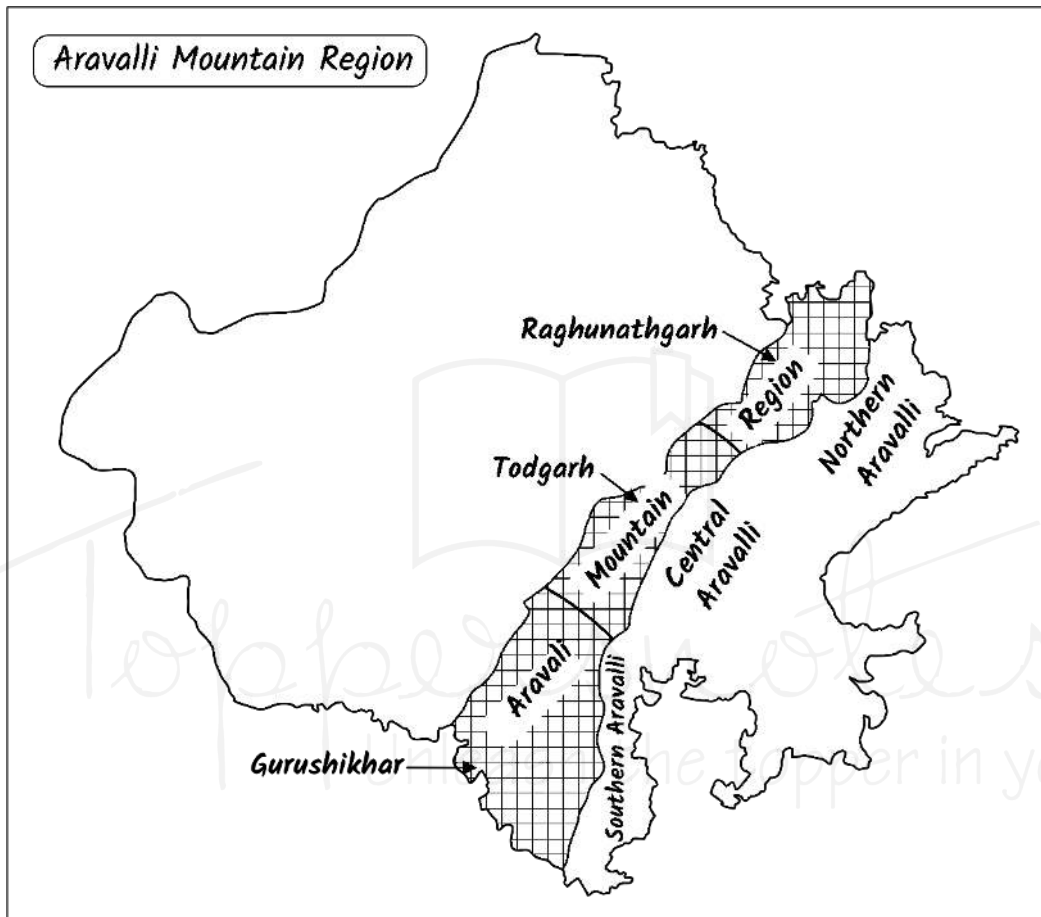
- Marshy, saline and infertile land in the desert is called rann/taat.
- Maximum found at Jaisalmer and Barmer.

**3. Baap Boulder** - Sediments and large stones/boulders formed by deposition from glaciers/ice sheets. Mostly found in Jodhpur.

**4. Dhore and Dharian** - Shifting sand dunes are known as Dharian and wavy sand dunes are known as Dhore. Mainly found in Jaisalmer.

5. **Oasis** - A place in the desert where water is present and plants can grow is called an oasis.
6. **Peevna** - A species of snake with yellow colour mainly found in Jaisalmer.
7. **March of Desert** - Shifting of desert (which is moving from Rajasthan to Haryana) is known as 'March of Desert'.
8. **Bolsons** - Water basin or lakes found in the middle of the mountains in the desert. Example: Sambhar lake

## 2. Aravalli Mountain Region



- Also known as 'Adawala mountains' in Rajasthan, the Aravalli Range (part of the Gondwana landmass) is one of the oldest folded mountain ranges (now residual).
- It extends over the Indian states of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana and Delhi. In Rajasthan, it spans from the north-east (Khetri- Jhunjhunu) to the south-west (Sirohi).
  - ✓ It stretches from Palanpur in Gujarat to Raisina Hill in Delhi (Rashtrapati Bhavan is situated on this hill).
- It divides Rajasthan into two unequal parts and serves as the Great Indian Water Divide Line.
- Total Length: 692 kilometers, out of which 550 km (79.49%) lies in Rajasthan.
- Average Height: 930 meters. The width and height of the range are greater in the southwest, gradually decreasing towards the northeast.
- The highest elevation of the Aravalli is in Sirohi, while the lowest is in Ajmer.

- Formed primarily of granite gneiss and schist, the range originates from the Delhi Supergroup. Granite rocks from the Dharwar group are found here, containing metallic mineral deposits.

#### NOTE

- **Peidmont** - A gently sloping surface (occurs at the base of a mountain) that is formed by erosion. Located in Devgarh, Rajsamand.
- Udaipur city is located in **Girwa hills**.

- The Aravalli Range is mainly divided into the following **three parts** -

Division of Aravallis	Location	Highest Peak
Southern Aravalli	Between Sirohi and Rajsamand	Gurushikhar (1722m)
Central Aravalli	Between Rajsamand and Jaipur	Todgarh (934m)
Northern Aravalli	Between Jaipur and Jhunjhunu	Raghunathgarh (1055m)

### Northern Aravalli Region

- It is the most populous part of the entire Aravalli region characterized by non-continuous range. Districts included are Jhunjhunu, Sikar, Jaipur, Kotputli-Behror, Khairthal-Tijara, Alwar, Dausa.

### Central Aravalli Region

- This region is primarily spread across the central part of Rajasthan (Ajmer, Beawar, , Tonk). It divides Rajasthan into two parts from north to south.
- Apart from mountains, this area is also characterized by narrow valleys and flatlands.
- The serpentine mountain ranges in the west are known as Nag Pahad. The Luni River originates from this mountain.
- Length: 100km; Width: 30km; Height: 700m
- It extends from Sambhar lake to Borhat plateau.

**NOTE:** The famous saline lake, Sambhar, is located between the Northern and Central Aravalli ranges.

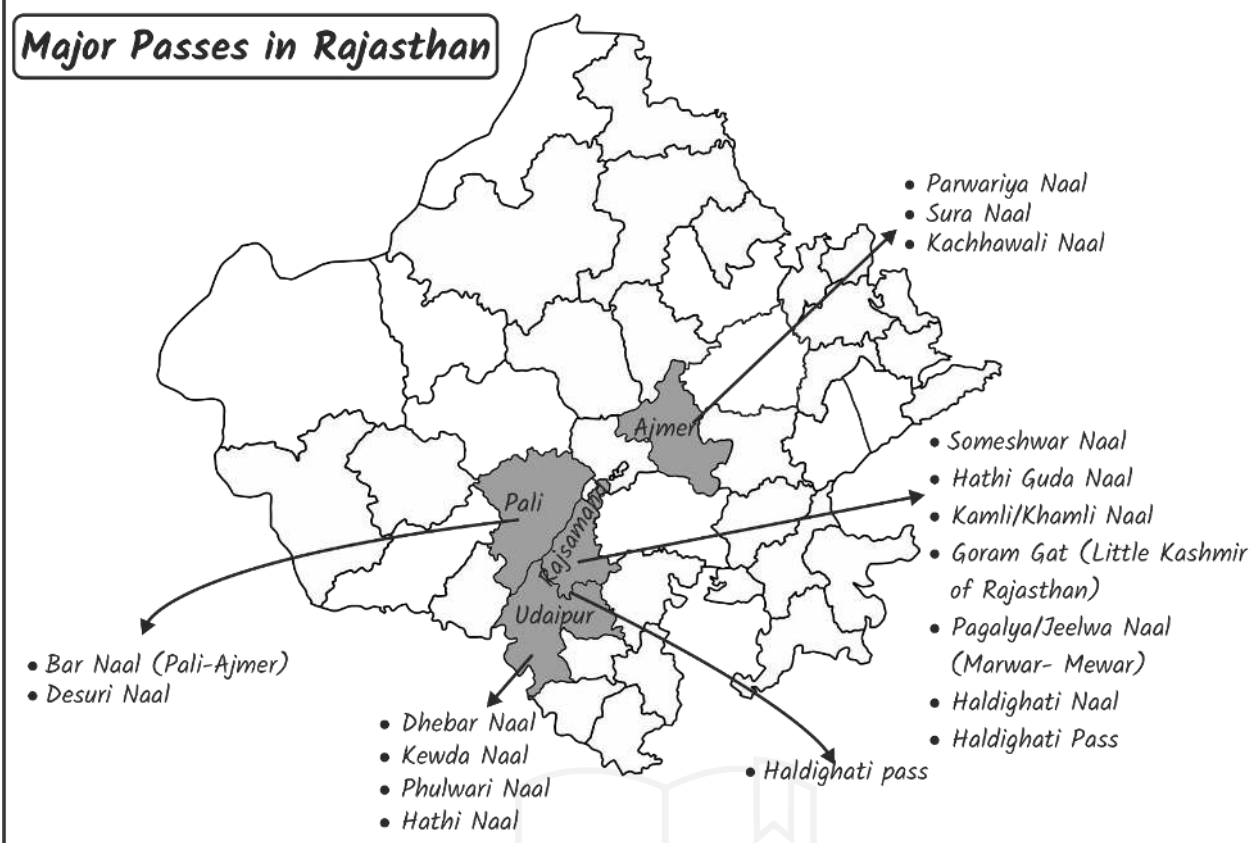
### Southern Aravalli Region

- It is a completely mountainous area and it is the most dense and elevated part of the Aravalli region.
- It holds the top position in the state in terms of mineral resources.
- Further divided into
  - ✓ Abu/Aburd Aravalli
  - ✓ Mewar Aravalli
- The highest peak of Rajasthan and the Southern Aravalli range is Guru Shikhar named after Dattatreya, which Colonel James Tod referred to as "The Peak of Saints".
- Districts included are Sirohi, Rajsamand, Dungarpur, Udaipur, Salumbar.
- It is the highest peak between the Himalayas and the Nilgiri Hills.

#### **(i) Major Passes of Southern Aravalli Region**

- Aravalli hills is found in continuous ranges from Ajmer to Sirohi. The passes here are referred to as "Nal" or "Ghat".

## Major Passes in Rajasthan



➤ The **major passes** of this region are as follows-

1. **Jeelwa Naal** - Also known as Pagalya Naal or Chirwa Ki Naal. It serves as the route from Mewar to Marwar. It is located in Rajsamand-Pali.
2. **Someshwar Naal** - Situated in Rajsamand district, this is the narrowest pass of the Aravalli range.
3. **Hathi Guda Naal** - Located in Rajsamand. The Kumbhalgarh Fort is built near it.
4. **Goram Ghat**- It is known as the "Little Kashmir" of Rajasthan and is located in Rajsamand district. It features a British-era track on which a meter-gauge train runs from Mavli Railway Station to Khambli Ghat Railway Station in the Devgarh region. The

Udaipur-Jodhpur railway line now passes through this pass.

5. **Desuri Naal** - It is located on the border of Rajsamand-Pali district. It connects Mewar to Marwar.
6. **Haldighati Pass** - This pass connects Rajsamand and Udaipur districts. It is famous for the battle between Maharana Pratap and Akbar's army. Roses Cultivation.
7. **Boranghat** - This is located in Sirohi district (Southernmost part of Rajasthan). It connects Udaipur to Mount Abu. NH-14 Passes through this region.
8. **Kevada Naal**: Located between Udaipur and Salumber.

## (ii) Major Plateaus of Southern Aravalli

S.No.	Name of the Plateau	Height (m)	District
1	Udiya Plateau (Highest plateau of Rajasthan)	1360	Sirohi
2	Bhorat Plateau (Highest point is Jarga hills;	1225	Kumbhalgarh-Gogunda,