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(group-B)

## VEGETATIONAL BELT OF INDIA

The Division of India is into certain Phytogeographical region was first proposed by CLARK (1898) It was revised by HOOKER (1904) & CHATTERJEE (1940) based on recent prediction of provincial and local flora CHATTERJEE further modified in 1962 after the division of India.

CLARK (1898) analysed Vegetation of India into six botanical provinces which are as follows

- 1) West Himalayas
2. India Desert
3. Malabar
4. Coimbatore
5. Gangetic Plain

### East Himalayas & Assam

HOOKER 1904 divided into nine Vegetational Belt -

1. Eastern Himalayas
2. Western Himalayas
3. Indian Plain
4. Gangetic Plain
5. Malabar
6. Deccan
7. Sylhet
8. Burma
9. Malayan Peninsula

The last three division separated from India & have status of autonomous country

CHATTERJEE modified the HOOKER scheme & suggested the following botanical



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Provinces in undivided India excluding Malaya & Seylone which are as follows

1. Western Himalayas
2. Eastern Himalayas
3. Central Himalayas (Now in Nepal)
4. Western Indian Desert
5. Gangetic plain
6. Deccan
7. Malabar
8. Upper Burma
9. Lower Burma

Recently India has divided into nine vegetational belt or nine floristic regions

1. Western Himalayas
2. Eastern Himalayas
3. West India Desert (Thar plain)
4. Gangetic Plain
5. Assam
6. Central India
7. Malabar (Western coast of Malabar)
8. Deccan
9. Andaman & Nicobar

The main factor in the distribution of sps. is amount of rainfall in a particular region. Soil is another important factor in the mountain region such as the Himalayas, the altitude is dominant factor. Combined with rainfall determining zonal vegetation.

The rainfall is



of Malabar where luxuriant vegetation with evergreen forest can be seen. Where as rainfall is low in Deccan, Central India & part of Punjab, vegetation with deciduous forest are uniformly distributed in this region. Where the rainfall is very low for eg. South Punjab the vegetation in this is xerophilous with many shrubs predominantly.

## WESTERN HIMALAYAS

It is one of important botanical region of world with climate & vegetation. It extends to Western Kashmir to North Eastern U.P. The rainfall varies from 40-50 cm. It is divided into two climatic belts.

### a. TROPICAL & SUB-TROPICAL

It is 1000-5000 ft. above from sea level. This forest is dominated by Shorea robusta. The other plants of this area are Dalbergia sissoo, Cedrela toona, Ficus glomerata, Acacia catechu, Butea monosperma etc.

### b. TEMPERATE ZONE

It is 5000-11675 ft. above from sea level. The dominant plant of at this area 5500 ft. is Pinus longifolia is replaced by Pinus excelsa.



6000 ft, Cedrus deodora is quite abundant while Quercus incana grows as separate patches. Many other dominant plants of this region are Betula, Salix, Populus, Taxus etc. Pinus griffithii is also found in this region.

### C. ALPINE ZONE

It is 12,000 ft. from the sea level & the plants of this region are mostly dwarfed & cushion shaped shrubs & grasses etc. Some of this region are Rhododendron, Betula, Polygonum, Aster etc.

## HIMALAYAS

This includes region of SIKKIM NEFA. It is characterised by more rainfall, low snowfall & higher temperature. This region is also divided into three zones.

### 1. SUB MONTANE ZONE

This zone is warm & humid weather & dominated by particular tropical rain forest & dominated with shaded Actinidia. It is extend from plain foot of hills upto 6,000 ft altitude. It is also includes the mix forest of Deciduous tree like Cedrus, Bauhinia, Albizia etc. The forest Dalbergia, Lilium & Acalya latifolia are dominated plants of this zone.