Geography · GS - I

What are non-farm primary activities? How are these activities related to physiographic features in India? Discuss with suitable examples.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
2025	GS - I	Geography

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Primary activities, forestry, fishing, mining, pastoralism, physiography, Himalayas, coastal regions, plateaus, arid regions

Model Answer

Introduction

Non-farm primary activities directly utilise natural resources but do not involve cultivation. Their distribution is strongly influenced by India's diverse physiographic conditions.

1. Major Activities

These include fishing, forestry, animal husbandry, pastoralism, hunting-gathering and mining.

2. Physiographic Relationship

The Himalayan region supports forestry, pastoralism and collection of minor forest produce because of its forests, grasslands and rugged terrain. The coastal and deltaic regions support marine fishing, aquaculture and salt production.

The mineral-rich Peninsular Plateau supports mining of coal, iron ore, bauxite and other minerals. Arid and semi-arid regions support pastoralism because limited water availability restricts intensive cultivation.

3. Examples

Fishing is prominent along the Gujarat, Kerala and Odisha coasts, while mining is concentrated in the mineral belts of Jharkhand, Odisha and Chhattisgarh.

Conclusion

Physiography determines resource availability, accessibility and occupational possibilities, thereby creating distinct regional patterns of non-farm primary activities.

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