



## UNIT II DRAINAGE

### NOTES

1. **Drainage** - Drainage is a river system of an area. A drainage basin is the area which is drained by the river and its tributaries.
2. **Water Divide** - A water divide is a mountain or an elevated region which separates two drainage basins.
3. **Major River and Their Tributaries** - The drainage system of India is influenced by the relief features of the sub – continent. Thus, we can divide the Indian rivers into two major Groups, viz., the Himalayan Rivers and the Peninsular Rivers.  
Himalayan rivers – Indus, Ganga and Brahmaputra  
Peninsular rivers – Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna and Kaveri
4. **Lakes** - Lakes are very useful to human beings. They help to regulate the flow of rivers. They can also be used for generating hydel power.
5. **Role of rivers in the economy** – River has played an important role throughout the human history. Water from the river is a basic natural resource. It is essential for various human activities.
6. **Pollution of rivers** – The growth demand for water from rivers for domestic, agricultural, and industrial purposes affects the quality of water. More and more water is being extracted from the river thereby reducing its volume. Besides, a large amount of untreated sewage and industrial effluents are dumped into the river and affects the quality of water as well as the self – cleansing capacity of the river.

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