

STATE AT A GLANCE: HIMACHAL PRADESH



HIMACHAL PRADESH

The State Himachal Pradesh (Lat $30^{\circ}22'40''\text{N}$ to $33^{\circ}12'40''\text{N}$ to E Long $75^{\circ}45'55''$ to $79^{\circ}04'20''$) is well known for its unique topography and bio-resources. The State is bordered by Jammu & Kashmir on North, Punjab on West and South-West, Haryana on South and Uttarakhand. On 25th January, 1971, Himachal Pradesh was made a full-fledged State on South-East. The state is blessed with abundant water resources in its five major rivers i.e., Chenab, Ravi, Beas, Satluj, and Yamuna, which emanate from the Western Himalaya and flow through the State. These snow fed rivers and their tributaries carry copious discharge throughout the year and flow with steep bed-slopes, which can be exploited for power generation. The State is very well known for representative, natural, unique, and socio-economically important biodiversity. Nearly one fourth of the total geographical area (55673 km^2) of the State is under wasteland. Permanent pastures contribute 20.7% of total geographical area, followed by barren land (3.5%) and uncultivable agricultural land (2.1%). The vegetation of the State comprises mainly tropical, sub-tropical, temperate, sub-alpine and alpine types. There are 01 Biosphere Reserve; 02 National Parks and 32 Wildlife Sanctuaries in this State. Apart from the rich biodiversity, the State is also rich in horticultural and agricultural crops, tradition and cultural heritage.