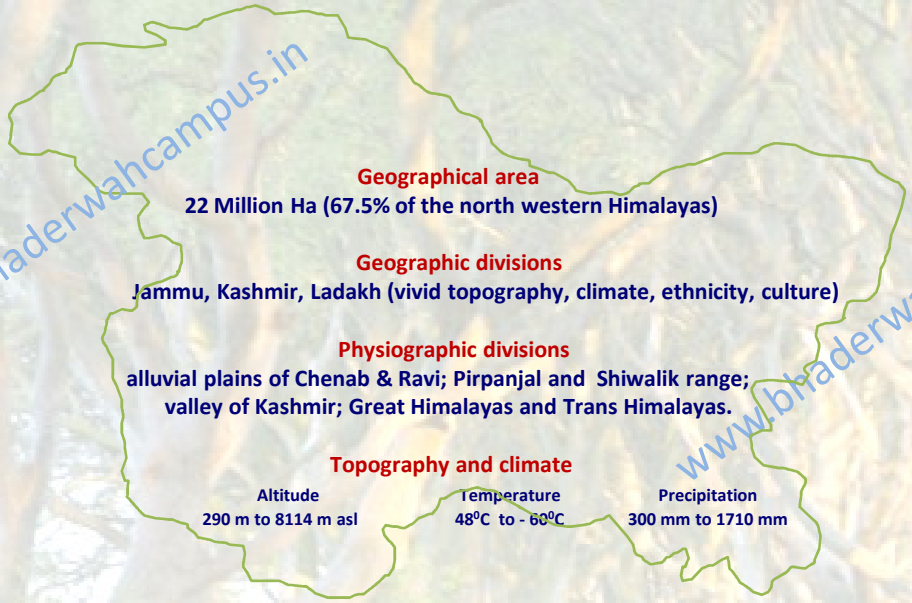
BIODIVERSITY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

AN OVERVIEW



Geographical area
22 Million Ha (67.5% of the north western Himalayas)

Geographic divisions
Jammu, Kashmir, Ladakh (vivid topography, climate, ethnicity, culture)

Physiographic divisions
alluvial plains of Chenab & Ravi; Pirpanjal and Shiwalik range; valley of Kashmir; Great Himalayas and Trans Himalayas.

Topography and climate

Altitude	Temperature	Precipitation
290 m to 8114 m asl	48°C to - 60°C	300 mm to 1710 mm

The bio-diversity of the rich area of Jammu and Kashmir happens to be one of the 26 hotpots in India with high endemicity. The whole Himalayan belt is one hotspot mega centre, having 8 critical areas, which include two regions from the state, *viz*. Ladakh and Kashmir.

MAJOR FOREST TYPES (5 types)
Alpine forests (above temperate zones)
Himalayan moist temperate forests (Chenab Valley)
Himalayan dry temperate forests (Kashmir valley)
Subtropical pine forests (Shiwalik range/outer Himalayas)
Subtropical dry deciduous forests (Shiwalik range, Jammu)
Minor forest types (about 70 types)

MAJOR WETLANDS (50 no. with area above 50 ha)
JAMMU: Surinsar & Mansar (Ramsar sites), Gharana, Nandansar, Chandansar, Sukhsar, Katorisar, Akaldashni, Dingsar, Diyasar, Samotsar, Kailsahkund, Gamsar, Samotsar
KASHMIR: Wullar (Ramsar site), Dal, Hokersar, Sheeshnag, Anchar, Kounsernag, Vishansar, Kishansar, Nilnag, Marsar
LADAKH: Tsomoriri (R. site), Pongong Tso, Chushul, Tsokar

FLORA (reported so far)

	Species	(Genera / Family)
Angiosperms:	4439	(1220 /120)
Gymnosperms:	19	(8 / 4)
Pteridophytes:	168	(54 /31)

550 species - medicinally important
55 species - aromatic
93 species including 23 medicinal plants - Threatened
58% (39% dicots & 19% monocots) - Endemic

FAUNA (reported so far)

	Species	(Genera / Family)
Mammals :	75	(57 /21)
Birds:	358	(179/51)
Amphibians:	14	(06 /05)
Reptiles:	68	(43/12)
Fishes:	44	(14/5)
Insects:	225	(136/25)

13 mammalian species reported globally threatened

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