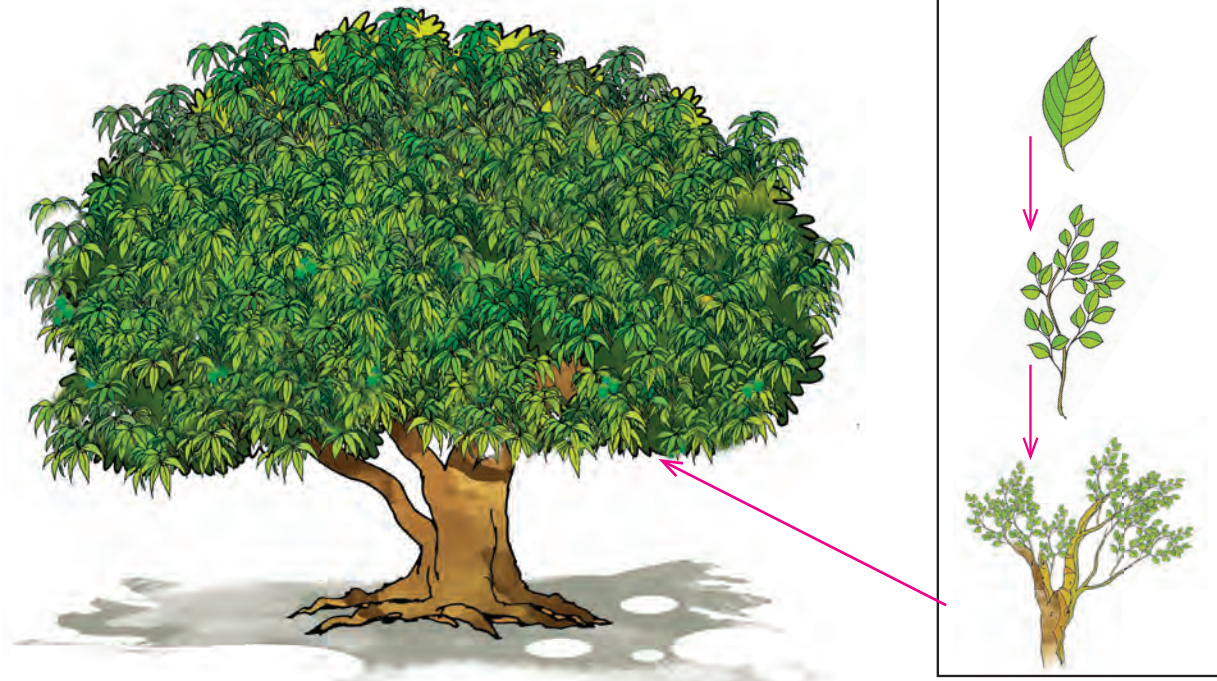




Try this.



Study a big tree in your locality using the following points.

- (1) What are the different parts of the tree ?
- (2) Which of these parts are seen on a tree most of the time ?
- (3) Which is the smallest part of a tree and what is it attached to ?
- (4) A tree has many small branches. What are they attached to ?
- (5) How many big branches does the trunk of the tree have ?

To be complete, a tree must have several components such as leaves, small branches, big branches, a trunk, etc. In the same way, our State too is made up of many settlements, villages, towns, talukas and districts. You will understand this better by looking at the diagram on the facing page.



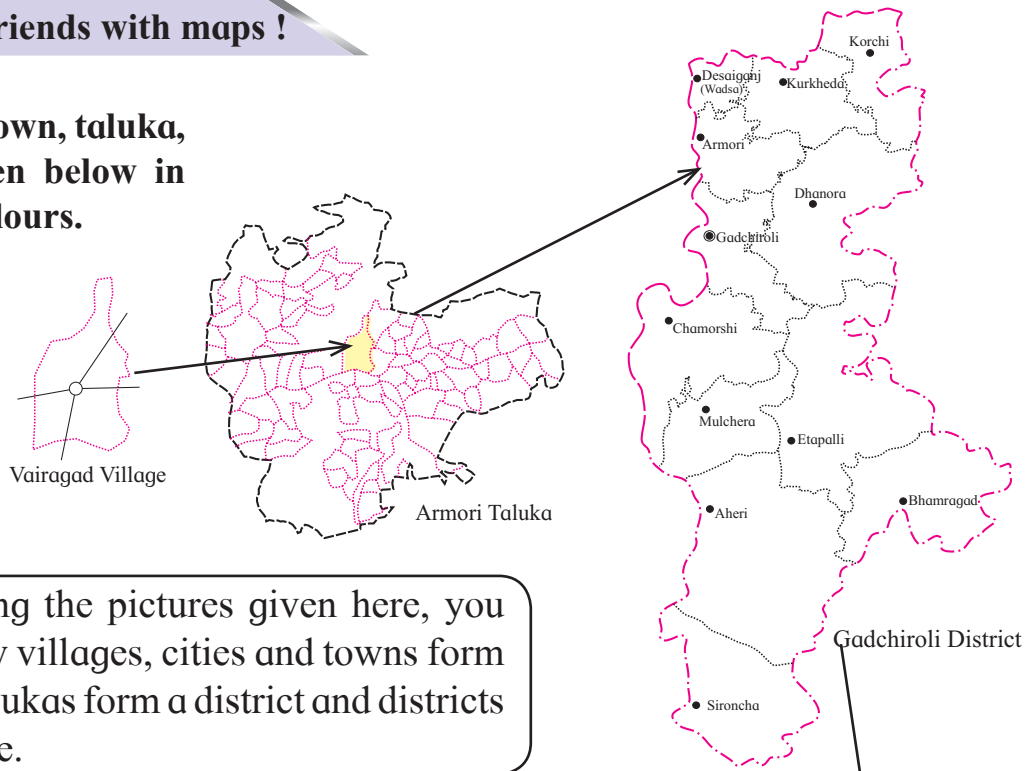
Do you know ?

Man began to farm the land. His fields were near water. He settled near his farms and began to live there. In this way, hamlets and settlements were formed. These hamlets and settlements grew into villages which then developed into cities.



Make friends with maps !

- Colour the town, taluka, district given below in different colours.



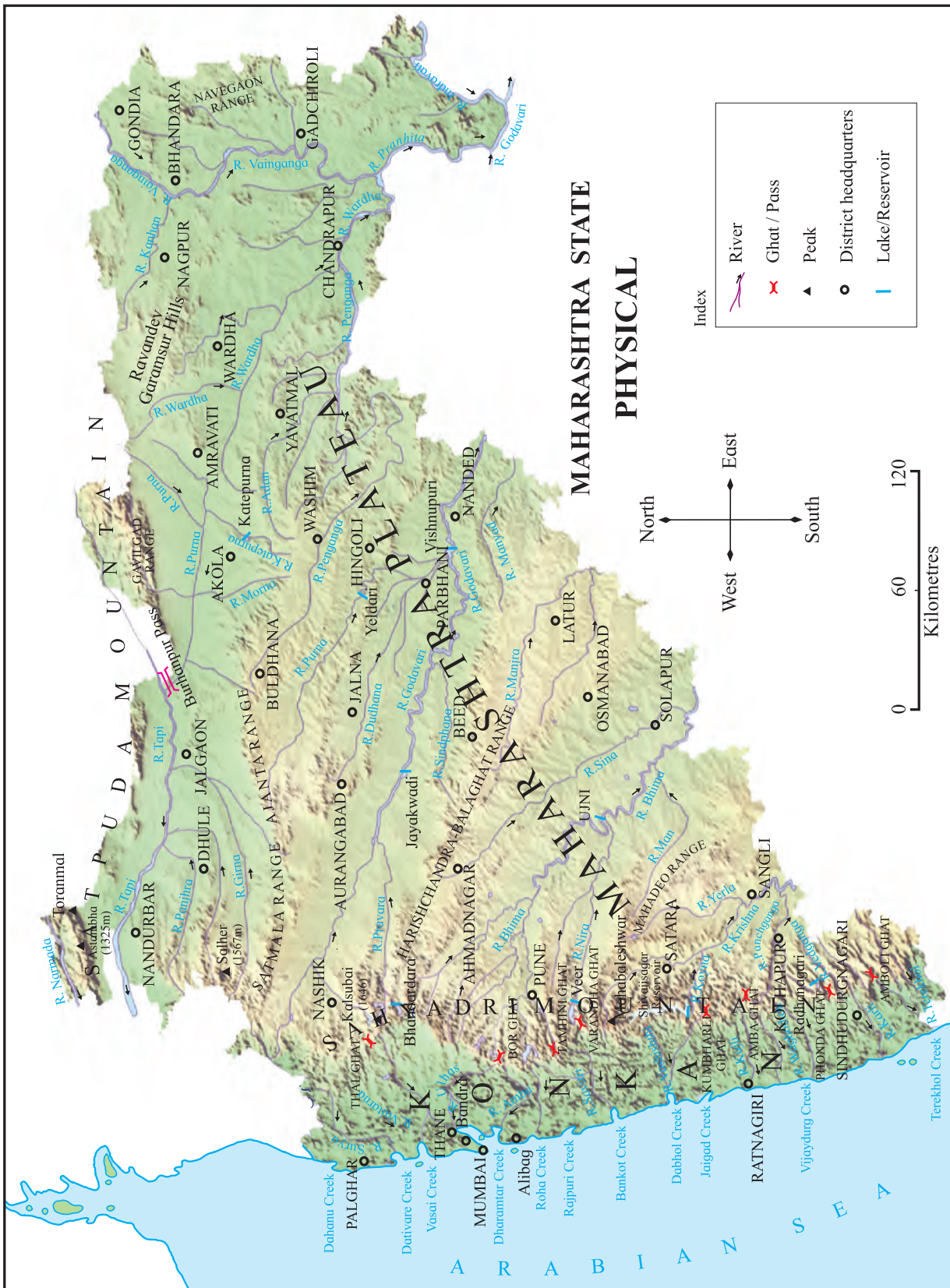
- By following the pictures given here, you can see how villages, cities and towns form a taluka, talukas form a district and districts form a State.





Make friends with maps !

The physical map of our State is given below. Study it carefully and write the answers to the following questions.

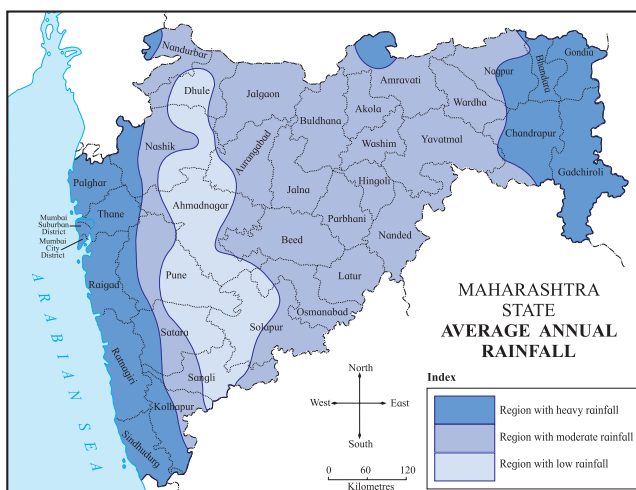


1. What is the name of the mountain that spreads from north to south in our State?
2. What is the name given to the region to the west of this mountain?
3. On the shore of which sea does this region lie?
4. What is the area to the east of the Sahyadri mountain called?
5. What is the name of the mountain in the northern part of our State?
6. Which is the river in our State which flows from the east to the west?
7. Write the names of two rivers which flow from north-west to south-east.
8. Write the names of any two rivers which have their origin in the Sahyadri mountain and flow into the Arabian Sea.
9. Find the ranges which originate in the Sahyadri mountain and spread to the east. Write their names.
10. Write the names of any three dams shown on the map.
11. Which rivers are these dams built on?
12. Name the important ghats in the Sahyadri mountain.



Do you know ?

1. Mumbai is the capital of Maharashtra State. Nagpur is the second capital.
2. According to its physical features, Maharashtra is divided into three regions – (a) the coastal region, (b) the mountainous region and (c) the plateau region.
3. The Godavari river is the longest river in Maharashtra.
4. The Satpuda mountain is in the northern part of Maharashtra. The highest peak in the Satpuda mountain is Astambha.
5. The Sahyadri mountains are also called the ‘**Western Ghats**’. ‘**Kalsubai**’ in this mountain is the highest peak in Maharashtra.
6. The Arabian Sea is to the west of the State.

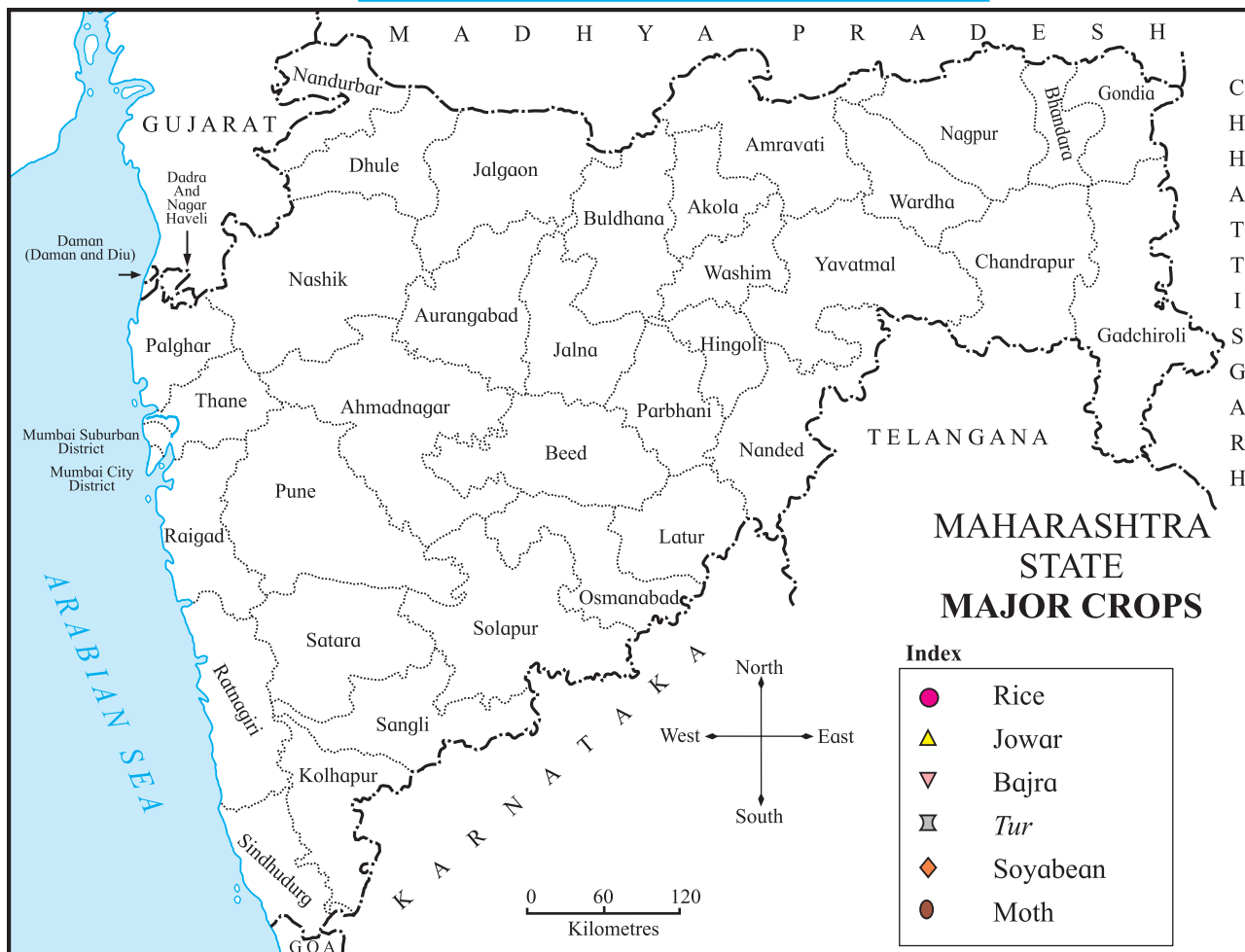


Can you tell ?

Regions of high, moderate and low rainfall are shown on the map given here. Rainfall has an effect on agriculture. A table is given on the next page. It shows the crops grown in regions of high, moderate and low rainfall. Carry out the following activity based on the map and the table.

Look at the map of rainfall given on the previous page and the table of crops given below. Find out which crops will grow in which region of Maharashtra. A map with an index is given below. On the map, show the distribution of crops according to rainfall.

Regions of rainfall and main crops		
High	Medium	Low
Rice	Jowar <i>Tur</i> Soyabean	Jowar Bajra Moth beans



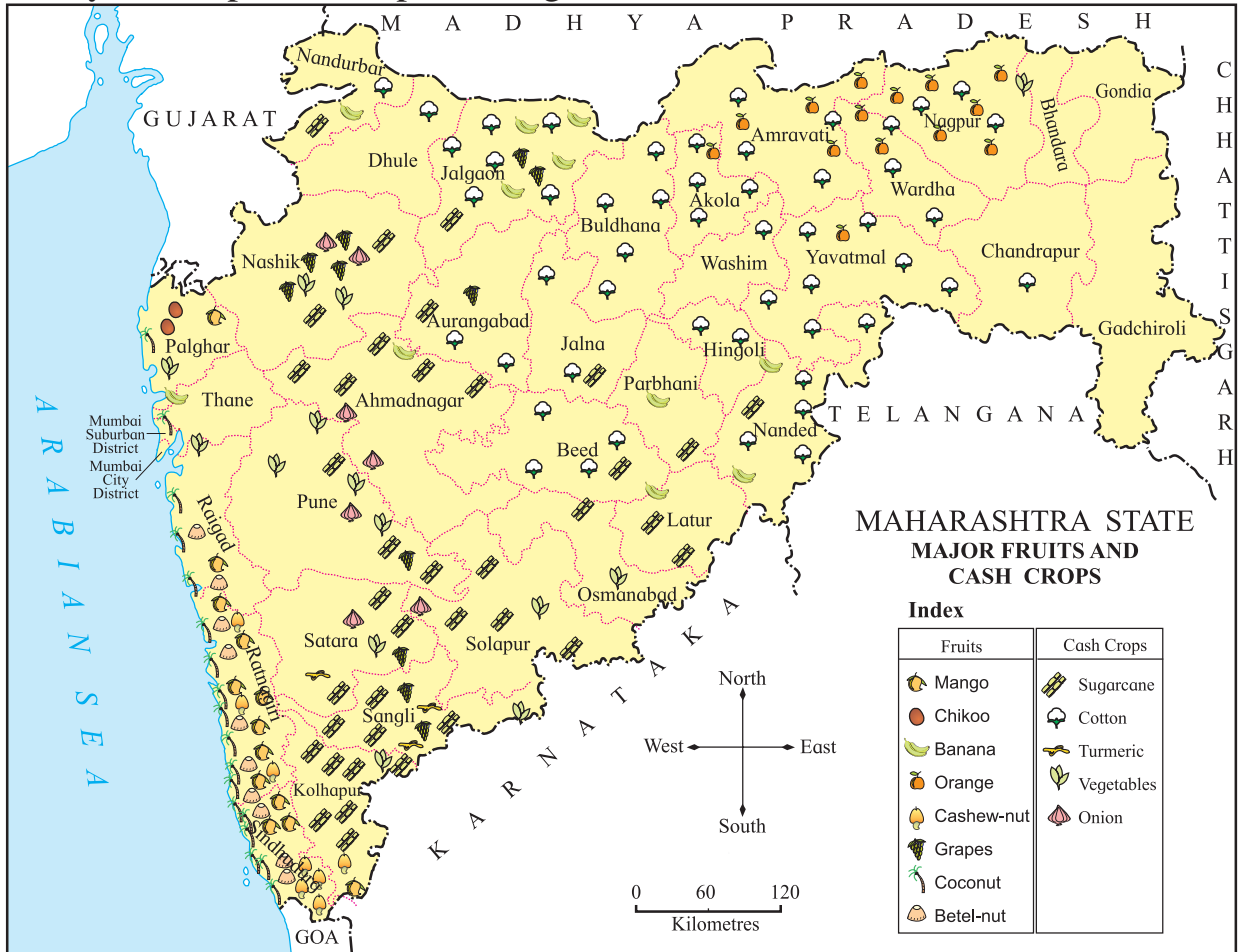
The production of crops depends on the climate, soil and availability of water. Different regions of Maharashtra get different amounts of rainfall. As a result, there is variety in the crops grown. Agriculture is the main occupation in Maharashtra. Agriculture in the State depends mostly on rainfall. This is called rainfed (jirayati) agriculture. In some places, water obtained through irrigation is also used. This is called irrigated (bagayati) agriculture.

The agricultural season that falls during the monsoon period is called the kharif season and the one that falls during winter is called the rabi season.



Can you tell ?

- Study the map and complete the given activities.



- Underline the names of districts which grow grapes.
- Circle the names of cotton growing districts.
- Circle the symbols of the crops grown in Thane and write their names in your notebook.
- In which districts is coconut an important crop? Write their names in your notebook.
- Find the districts which grow the orange crop. Colour them using a different colour.

All the crops shown above are based on irrigation. Their distribution is influenced by climate and soil. They are also known as commercial or cash crops. Chemical fertilisers and pesticides are used for these crops.



Always remember –

The use of chemical pesticides and fertilisers to increase the yield of crops has risen. However, this results in greater soil pollution. We should use chemical fertilisers sparingly. Organic fertilisers should be used more. In this way, we will be able to prevent harm to the environment.



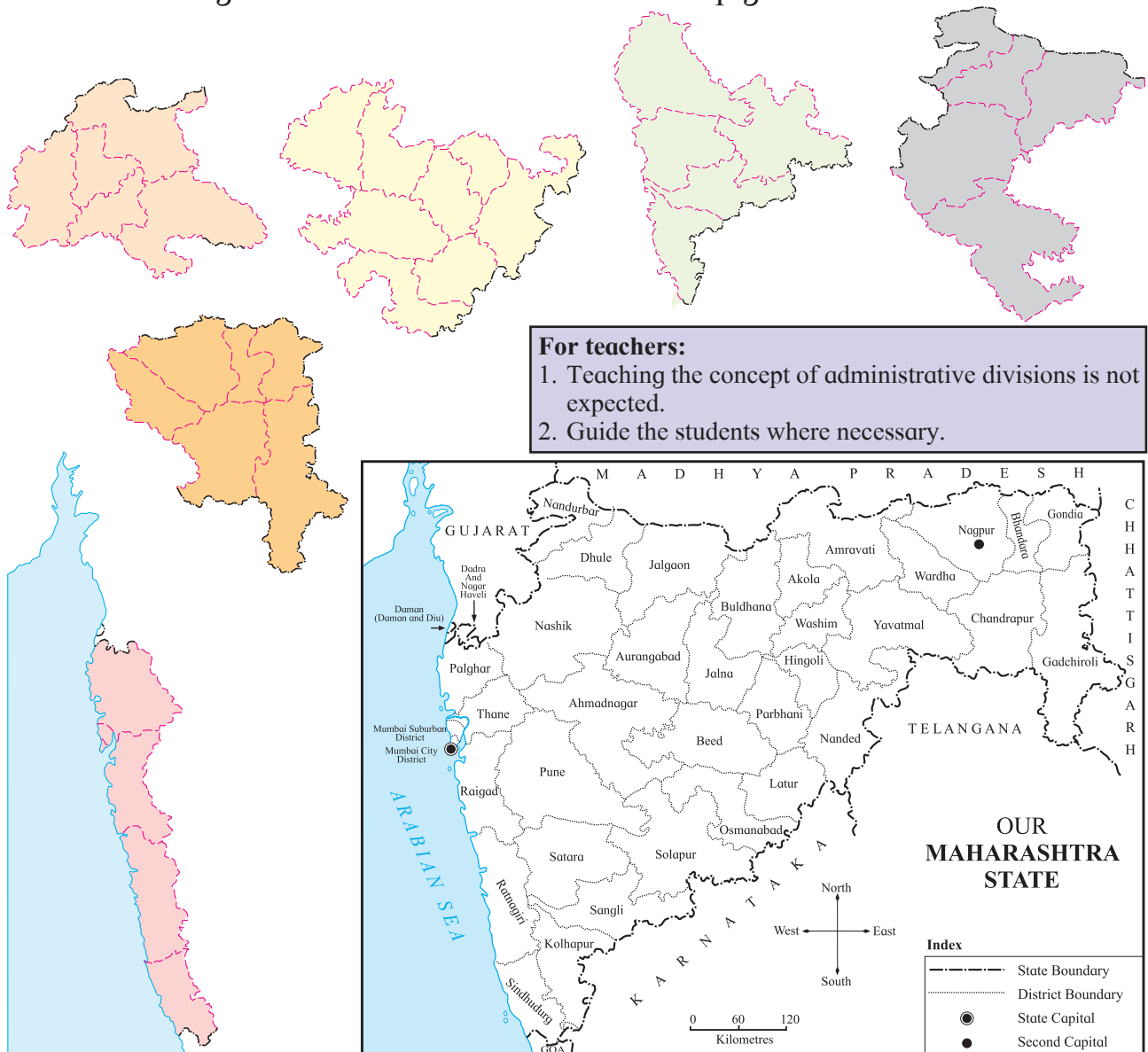
Try this.

- (1) Visit a farm. Make a list of the various crops grown there in the different seasons.
- (2) Discuss with the farmers, the various means of irrigation available on the farm.
- (3) Find out which factors affect farming.
 - You will realize that several different crops are grown in one field. Availability of water is essential for farming.



Use your brain power !

The administrative divisions of our State are given below. Observe them and colour these regions in different colours in the map given below.



Language and dialects

Maharashtra State was formed on 1 May, 1960. States in India have been formed on the basis of language. 'Marathi' is the State language of Maharashtra. In Maharashtra, there is similarity as well as diversity in languages. The pronunciation of Marathi varies in different regions. We see a variety in the dialects that are spoken. We should welcome this diversity.

Regions	Some Dialects
Konkan	Konkani, Malvani
Vidarbha	Varhadi
Khandesh	Ahirani (Khandeshi)

Gormati, Kolami, Korku, etc. are the traditional dialects of adivasi tribes in Maharashtra.



Can you tell ?



We find variety in the festivals of our State, according to the different traditions. Everyone celebrates Diwali, Dasara, Christmas, Eid etc. In the Konkan region, festivals such as Naralipournima, Holi and the Ganesh festival are mainly celebrated. In the plateau region, people celebrate festivals such as Dasara, Diwali and Bailpola on a big scale. We celebrate our national festivals 15 August and 26 January all over the country with great enthusiasm.





What's the solution ?

Sudhir and Swapnil have come to your town. They wish to take home a famous food item from your district. Which food item will you give them?



Use your brain power !

- Are villages, towns, cities, talukas, districts, States and countries man-made or naturally formed ?



What we have learnt –

- The physical set-up of our State.
- Variety in crops according to climate, soil and availability of water.
- The State language Marathi and its different dialects.
- Variety in celebrations and festivals.



Exercises

(A) Answer the following questions.

1. Which parts of Maharashtra grow oranges ?
2. Which parts of Maharashtra grow the crops of coconut, betel-nut and mango ?
3. Mention the dialects of Marathi spoken in your locality.
4. Which river in eastern Maharashtra flows from the north to the south ?
5. Which districts in the State grow jowar ?
6. Why is the 1st of May celebrated in our State ?

(B) Draw a picture of your favourite festival.



Activity

- Study and understand the climate of your district. Make a list of the main crops grown in the district according to the climate.
