ADMINISTRATIVE SET-UP

DISTRICT JAISALMER

Location:
Jaisalmer is located between 26° 01' and 28° 02' latitude and 69° 29' and 72° 20' East longitude. It has geographical area about 38401 sq.km. It is bounded on the west, north and north west by Pakistan, and north east by Bikaner district on the south lies the district of Barmer and on the east district of Jodhpur.

Administrative Setup:
Administratively Jaisalmer district is a part of Jodhpur division with two tehsils namely - Jaisalmer and Pokaran which are further divided into five sub tehsils namely - Fatehgarh, Ramgarh and Sam in Jaisalmer tehsils and Nokh and Bhanjanya in Pokaran tehsil. District may be divided into three panchayat samities namely - Sam, Jaisalmer and Sankra.

Climate:
The climate of the district is dry and healthy. It is characterised by large extremes of temperature and erratic rainfall. The hot weather is very prolonged and the heat during the summer, which extends upto the end of the June is intense. The maximum temperature recorded in Jaisalmer is 46°C while the minimum is about 2°C. The rainfall in the district is scanty and precarious, generally varies with different parts. The average normal rainfall is only 148.8 mm.

Geology and Minerals:
Jaisalmer is to a large extent covered by dunes of blown sand of the transverse type i.e. the ridges usually parallel to prevailing direction of the wind. Main rock types of Jaisalmer are limestone, sandstone and shale. Geological Survey of India has broadly classified into seven groups namely -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beds</th>
<th>Type</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eocene beds</td>
<td>sandstone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abur beds</td>
<td>sandstone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parewar beds</td>
<td>sandstone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhadesar beds</td>
<td>sandstone &amp; gypsum beds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baishakhki beds</td>
<td>sandstone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jaisalmer beds</td>
<td>sandstone &amp; limestone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lathi beds</td>
<td>sandstone</td>
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The important economic mineral found in the district are fuller's earth, clay, gypsum, limestone, yellow and red ochre and phosphorite. Sonu limestone is a famous steel grade limestone and mined near village Sonu. There are fairly large deposits of clay near Mandai, Manda, Nadai, and Ramgarh, while clay occurs at Devikot, Chhior and Mundai. Gypsum is at Mohangarh, Hamerwali, Lakhasar, Lakh, Nokha and Nandai. Quarries of limestone are located at Marsagar, Moolasgar and near Jaisalmer town.

Physiography and Soil:
Area comprising the district is almost sandy dry and ill watered and forms a part of Great Indian Desert ‘Thar’. The district looks like a limitless sea of sand dunes of different shapes and varying size. The biggest sand dunes are found in Ramgarh of Sam sub tehsils.

In the area near Deda in Sam sub tehsil and almost in the half the area of Pokran tehsil the land is gravel stone and is locally known as Magra. These are also few low lying hills in Pokaran.

There is no perennial river in the district, however among the few streams which flow around Jaisalmer one is called Kakni and forms a lake near Rupsi.

Sand dunes are of frequent occurrence in Jaisalmer district. This is the soil group which occupies the major area under district. These have been grouped separately from desert soil and they are only deposited sand. These soils are pale brown single grained, deep profile developed, texture is sandy type, these soil belong to aridisols order.

Forest:
Forest area covers only 16,336 Hectares of land in the district constituting 0.42 per cent of the total area of the district.

Population:
The total population of district is 344517 among which 290917 is rural and 53600 urban. Tehsilwise distribution of population is as follows:

1. Jaisalmer = 1,88,767
2. Pokaran = 1,55,750