



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
Only IAS Academy by Grandson of "Perunthalaivar Kamarajar"

MAP OF DAY 28-04-26

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Kamaraj IAS Academy

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MAP OF THE DAY BHARAT

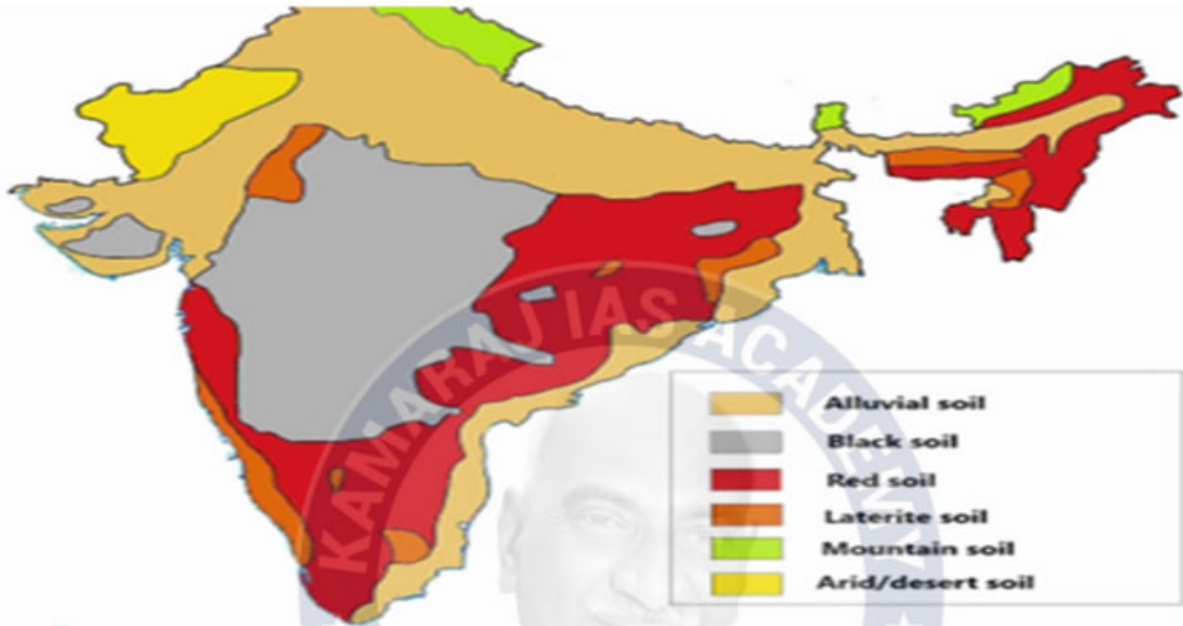
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Tuesday, 28 April 2026



Red Soil

Red Soil –

- In India, **red soil** is the **second most important** soil group after alluvial soil.
- It holds a significant place in **Indian agriculture and geomorphology**.

Introduction and Formation

- **Definition:** Red soil is formed from the **weathering of ancient crystalline igneous and metamorphic rocks such as granite and gneiss**.
- **Region:** It is mainly found in **areas with low rainfall**.
- **Reason for Red Color:** The presence of a high amount of **iron oxide (ferric oxide)** gives the soil its red color.
- **Yellow Soil:** When the soil is in a **hydrated form**, it appears yellow.

Distribution

- It covers about **3.5 lakh square kilometers (approximately 10.6% of India's total area)**.
- **Main Areas:** **Southern Peninsular Plateau including Tamil Nadu (entire), Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, southeastern Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, and Jharkhand**.
- **Other Areas:** **Chota Nagpur Plateau, Bankura–Purulia**

Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh.

Physical and Chemical Characteristics

- **Texture:** Varies from sandy to clayey, but mostly loamy.
- **Nutrient Status:** Deficient in nitrogen, **phosphorus, humus, and lime**.
- **Composition:** **Relatively rich in potash**.
- **Porosity:** Highly porous, resulting in low **water-holding capacity**.
- **pH Value:** **Generally acidic** to slightly alkaline in nature.

Importance for Agriculture

- **Low Fertility:** Naturally not very fertile, but productivity can be improved with proper **fertilizers and irrigation**.
- **Major Crops:** Millets (ragi, bajra), **pulses, groundnut, cotton, tobacco, potato, and fruits grow well in this soil**.
- **Drainage:** It has good drainage, which is suitable for certain crops.

Problems Associated with Red Soil

- **Nutrient Deficiency:** Severe lack of **nitrogen and humus**.
- **Low Water Retention:** Due to sandy nature, it cannot retain water for long.
- **Soil Erosion:** In upland areas, it becomes rocky and

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MAP OF THE DAY WORLD

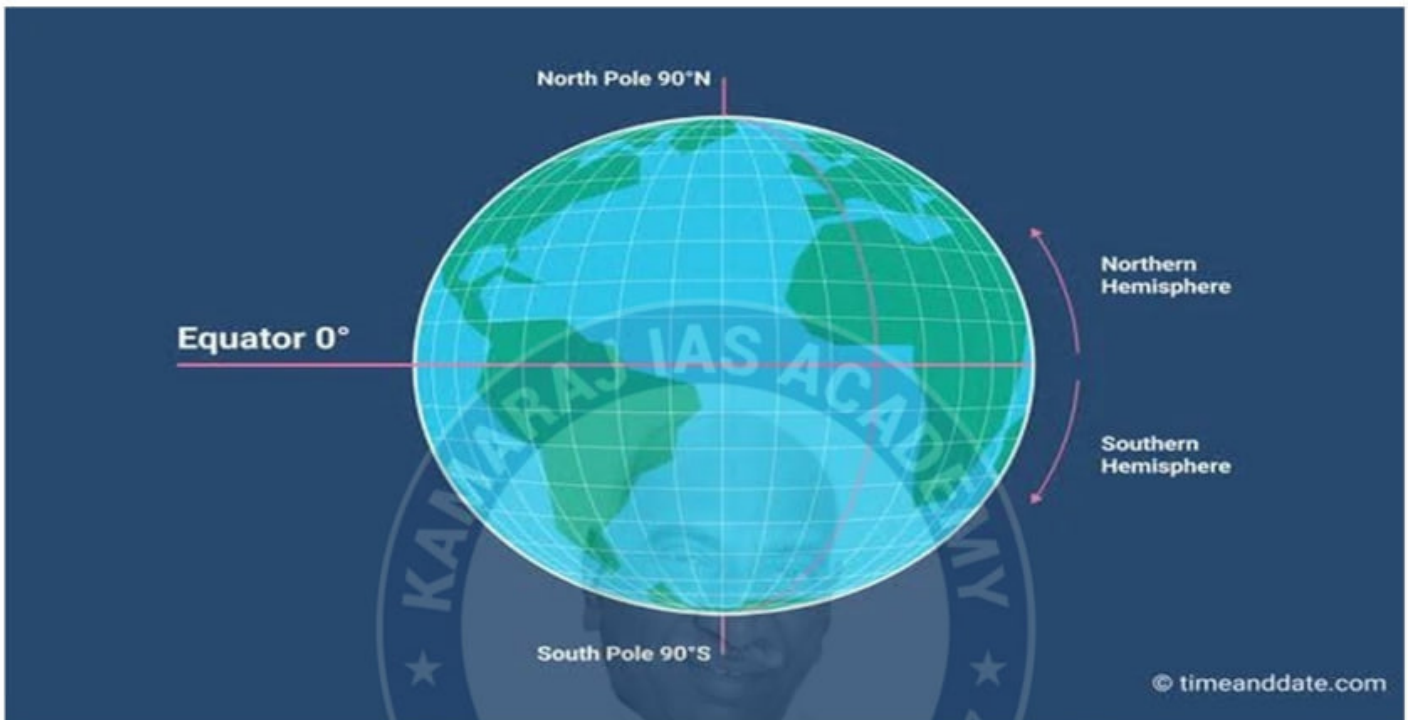
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Equator

Definition and Basic Facts

- **The Equator** is an imaginary line on the Earth located at **0° latitude**. It divides the Earth into two equal halves; the **Northern Hemisphere** and the **Southern Hemisphere**.
- It is the longest line of latitude, measuring about **40,075 km**.
- The Sun's rays fall almost vertically throughout the year, resulting in **high temperatures** and **convective rainfall**.
- At the Equator, day and night are nearly equal (about **12 hours each**) throughout the year (exactly equal during equinoxes). **Sunrise and sunset occur very rapidly**.

Countries and Continents through which the Equator Passes

- The Equator passes mostly through oceans (about 78%) and crosses 13 countries and 3 continents — **South America, Africa, and Asia/Oceania**.
- **Countries on the Equator (13):**
 - **South America:** Ecuador, Colombia, Brazil
 - **Africa:** São Tomé and Príncipe, Gabon, Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Kenya, Somalia
 - **Asia/Oceania:** Maldives, Indonesia, Kiribati

- **Continents:** South America, Africa, and Asia
- **Water Bodies:** Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean, Indian Ocean
- **Congo River:** The only river that crosses the Equator twice
- **Lake Victoria:** Africa's largest lake and third-largest in the world, crossed by the Equator
- **Congo and Indonesia:** Regions with dense equatorial rainforests
- **Africa is the only continent** through which the **Tropic of Cancer, Tropic of Capricorn, and the Equator** all pass

Geographical vs Thermal Equator

- The Geographical Equator is **fixed at 0° latitude**
 - The Thermal Equator refers to the region of **highest temperature**
 - It usually shifts northward due to **greater landmass in the Northern Hemisphere**
- This concept is important for understanding the **ITCZ (Intertropical Convergence Zone)** and **monsoon system**

Equinox and Seasonal Change

- **Occurs twice a year** — around **21 March** and **23 September**

During Equinox:

- **Day and night are equal across the Earth**
- **The Sun's position is balanced**
- It is caused by the **Earth's axial tilt and revolution**, forming the basis of **seasonal changes**

Equator and Ocean Currents – Key Points

- **Intense heating at the Equator** warms ocean water, leading to the formation of currents
- **Direction of flow:** East to West
- **Major Equatorial Currents:**
 - **North Equatorial Current:** Carries **warm water westward**
 - **South Equatorial Current:** Flows **westward across oceans**
 - **Equatorial Counter Current:** Flows **west to east between the two currents**
- **Climate Impact:** Helps in **regulating coastal temperatures** (e.g., **Gulf Stream warms Europe**)

Relationship between Ocean Currents and Climate

- **Warm Currents:** Flow from the **Equator toward the poles**
- **Cold Currents:** Flow from the **poles toward the Equator**

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