



NILGIRI

- The Name 'Nilgiris' means Blue hills the first mention of this name has been found in the Silappadikaram.

Geographical Location

- The Nilgiris is situated at an elevation of 900 to 2636 meters above MSL.
- The Nilgiris is bounded on North by Karnataka State on the East by Coimbatore District, Erode District, South by Coimbatore District and Kerala State and as the West by Kerala State.

Area

- The District has an area of 2452.50 sq.km.

Population

- As per 2011 census the population of this district is 7,35,000. Sex ratio 1042 females per 1000 males.
- The Nilgiris District Comprises of six taluks-Udhagamandalam, Kundah, Coonoor, Kotagiri, Gudalur and Pandalur.

Important places

- Doddabetta - 2,623mts above MSL-highest Peak in the Tamil Nadu.
- The Nilgiri Mountain Train-One among the three Mountain Railways of India designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
 - Three railways, the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway, the Nilgiri Mountain Railway, and the Kalka-Shimla Railway, are collectively designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site under the name Mountain Railways of India. The fourth railway, the Matheran Hill Railway, is on the tentative list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
- Mudumalai National Park
- Pykara Waterfalls and the Ooty Lake

Forest

- South Western ghats - Nilgiri tahrs are found only in the montane grasslands of the Southwestern Ghats.



- Above 1500 metres' elevation, the evergreen forests begin to give way to stunted forests, locally called sholas, which are interspersed with open grassland. The high grasslands are home to the endangered Nilgiritahr.
- Three national parks forms portions of the Nilgiris- Mudumalai National Park, Mukurthi national park, Silent Valley National Park.
- Nilgiri Biosphere reserve.

Agriculture

- Major crops are Tea, Coffee, Spices, Potato and temperate vegetables and fruits.

Industries

- Tea processing, Hindustan Photo Films manufacturing company (A Govt of India Undertaking).
- The GRAPES-3 experiment (or Gamma Ray Astronomy PeVEnergieS phase-3) located in Ooty.