

The Indus Delta

The Indus Delta, which has its apex at about 50 km south of Hyderabad, is of rather recent formation. It covers an area of 855,000 hectares. The delta developed by alluvial sedimentation, sand, silt and clay being deposited by the Indus River. It is a large flat plain with an average fall towards the sea of approximately 13,5 cm/km.

The recent flood-plain is composed by the active flood-plain, levees, basin and channel infills. The active flood-plain is a narrow strip of land along the river, which is flooded annually and receives the fresh sediments. The embankments have diminished tidal influence.

The tidal plain consists of 200 km of coastline with mud flats, tidal marshes and mangroves and is subject to frequent flooding by sea water. The Indus Delta has the main characteristics of a polder area. Dikes or (small) bunds have been built in part of the delta, providing various degree of flood control and water management.



