



Place in News – Nepal

Context: To enhance tourism, Nepal has eliminated climbing fees for 97 lesser-known mountains located in the western provinces of Karnali and Sudurpaschim. This initiative aims to attract climbers beyond the iconic Everest and to bolster local economies.



About Nepal:

- A landlocked nation situated in South Asia, recognized for its rugged Himalayan landscape and rich cultural heritage. Despite being one of the least developed countries, it holds strategic significance due to its location between India and China.



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- **Neighbouring Nations:** India and the Tibet Autonomous Region of China.
- **Capital:** Kathmandu

Key Features

Mountains:

- Home to eight of the world's ten tallest peaks, which include:
- Mount Everest (8,849 m) – the highest peak globally.
- Kanchenjunga, Lhotse, Makalu, Cho Oyu, Dhaulagiri, Manaslu, Annapurna.

Rivers:

- Significant river systems that flow southward into India: Kosi, Narayani (Gandak), and Karnali.
- Possesses high hydropower potential due to its steep gradients and glacial origins.