

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1323
ANSWERED ON 30/07/2026

IMPACT OF EL NINO ON INDIAN MONSOON

1323. SHRI R. GIRIRAJAN:

Will the Minister of **EARTH SCIENCES** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is likely to experience a strong "Super El Nino" during 2026-2027, which may lead to failure of monsoon rains, abnormal rise in temperature and droughts in central India and excess floods in Coastal Tamil Nadu including Chennai and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of precautionary actions and appropriate measures taken by Government to protect the people from El Nino effects; and
- (c) the various steps including early preparedness and adaptive measures taken by Government to mitigate the effects of El Nino on crop yields, food prices, energy demand and economic losses?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

- (a) There is no officially defined category known as a "Super El Nino" by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) or the India Meteorological Department (IMD), under the Ministry. Operationally, El Nino events are generally classified as weak, moderate, strong, or very strong based on the magnitude of sea surface temperature anomalies over the equatorial central Pacific Ocean. IMD has predicted the development of El Nino conditions during the 2026 southwest monsoon season. El Nino conditions were weak during June 2026 and intensified to moderate levels in July 2026.

El Nino is likely to strengthen further during the October–December 2026 season and may reach a very strong category. However, its exact intensity and impacts over the Indian region depend on the evolution of coupled ocean–atmosphere conditions, of which El Nino is one factor. IMD continuously monitors the evolution of oceanic and atmospheric conditions and issues regular seasonal and monthly forecasts and advisories.

- (b)-(c) The India Meteorological Department (IMD), under the Ministry, continuously monitors the evolution of El Nino and other climate drivers and issues regular seasonal/monthly forecasts, extended-range forecasts, and weather advisories to the Central and State Governments and other stakeholders. IMD issues Impact-Based Forecasts (IBFs) and risk-based warnings daily, valid for the next 7 days through multiple communication channels for use by disaster management authorities, State Governments, district administrations, and other stakeholders to support preparedness and response measures.
