

IMD Forecasts 'Above Normal' Monsoon in 2025

□ Key Points for Easy Understanding:

1. Above Normal Rainfall Expected

- IMD predicts India will receive **5% more rainfall** than the average **87 cm** during June–September 2025.
- This would be the **second year in a row** with above-normal monsoon rainfall.

2. What This Means

- □ **Good for Agriculture:** More water for **kharif crops** like rice and maize.
- □ **Better Water Storage:** Reservoirs will be better filled.
- △ **Caution:** High rainfall in short time can cause **flooding** in some areas.

3. Why Monsoon Might Be Good This Year

- □ **No El Nino:** El Nino is linked to **less rain**. Its absence is good news.
- ✳ **Low Eurasian Snow Cover:** Less snow in Europe/Asia = more rainfall in India (inverse relation).

4. How IMD Forecasts Monsoon

- They use a **dynamical, coupled model**, combining:
 - Ocean data
 - Atmosphere data
 - Supercomputers simulate future weather patterns

5. Ocean and Climate Conditions

- □ **ENSO is Neutral:** Neither El Nino nor La Nina, but atmospheric features lean toward **La Nina** (good for rainfall).
- □ **IOD is Neutral:** Not positive, but stable for now. Positive IOD would support more rainfall.

6. Where Will It Rain More or Less?

- 🌧️ **Above-normal rainfall**: Most of India
- ☄️ **Below-normal rainfall**: Parts of:
 - North-West India
 - North-East India
 - South Peninsular India
- ☄️ **Normal rainfall** in the **Core Monsoon Zone** (central and eastern India)

7. Better Accuracy in Forecasts

- Since 2021, IMD's forecasts are more accurate.
- Forecast error reduced to **2.7%**, compared to **7.5%** before 2021.

☄️ Explanation of Important Terms:

Term	Explanation
IMD	India Meteorological Department – national weather forecasting body.
Kharif Crops	Crops sown in June (rainy season) and harvested in October (e.g., rice, millets).
Reservoirs	Water storage systems (lakes/dams) used for irrigation and drinking water.
El Nino	Warming of Pacific Ocean – linked to weaker monsoon in India.
La Nina	Cooling of Pacific Ocean – linked to stronger monsoon in India.
ENSO	El Nino-Southern Oscillation – a climate pattern that includes both El Nino & La Nina.
IOD	Indian Ocean Dipole – temperature difference in Indian Ocean affecting Indian rainfall.
Eurasian Snow Cover	Snow in Europe & Asia – less snow = more rainfall in India.
Dynamical Coupled Model	Climate model using ocean + atmosphere data for better forecasting.
Core Monsoon Zone	Central & eastern India – mainly agriculture-based, heavily depends on monsoon.

☄️ FAQ: Indian Monsoon

1. What is the monsoon season in India?

- The Indian monsoon season lasts from **June to September**, and it provides nearly 70% of India's annual rainfall.
- 2. **Why is monsoon important for India?**
 - It is essential for **agriculture**, water supply, and electricity generation (via hydro-power).
- 3. **What are kharif crops?**
 - Crops that are **sown with the onset of monsoon** (June) and harvested in **October**. Examples: rice, maize, cotton.
- 4. **What happens if rainfall is below normal?**
 - It may lead to **drought**, crop failure, water shortage, and reduced food production.
- 5. **What is the role of El Nino and La Nina?**
 - **El Nino** weakens monsoon.
 - **La Nina** strengthens monsoon.
 - **Neutral ENSO** has mixed effects.
- 6. **Can monsoon cause floods?**
 - Yes. **Intense, heavy rainfall in short time** can lead to flooding, especially in cities or low-lying areas.

MCQ for Practice

Q: Which of the following is *not true* about the Indian monsoon forecast for 2025?

- A. IMD expects 5% above normal rainfall this year
- B. El Nino is active and will bring heavy rains
- C. Low Eurasian snow cover may lead to more rainfall
- D. Forecast accuracy has improved since 2021

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