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**17 JANUARY 2026**

## **EN-BUZZER**

# **Daily News Analysis**



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## 1. La Niña and El Niño

### Prelims Perspective: What needs to be learned

- La Niña and El Niño comparison
- Cause and Effect

### Mains Perspective: Notes need to be prepared

- Impact of La Niña and El Niño upon the Indian monsoon (GS I - Geography)

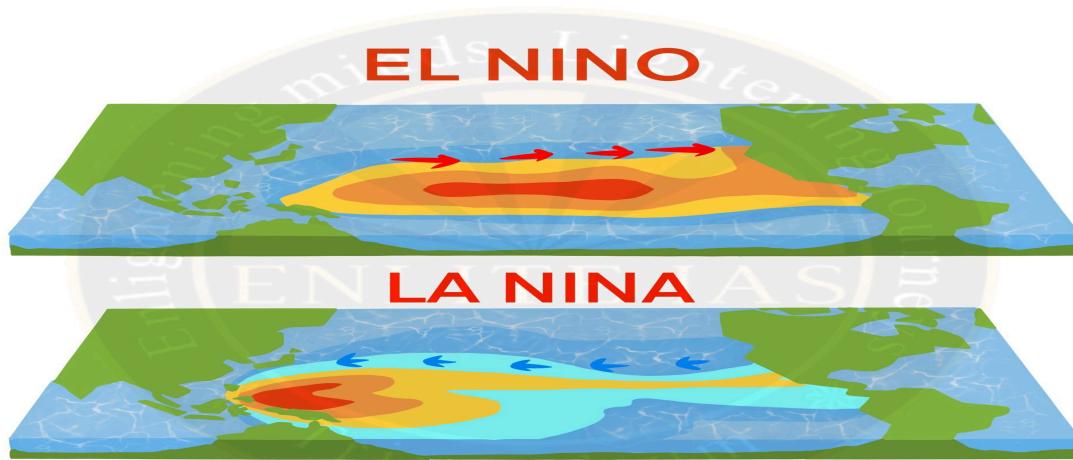
### What needs to be known?

- La Niña

- La Niña and El Niño are climate patterns resulting from variations in the equatorial Pacific Ocean temperature.
- La Niña is characterised by the **cooling** of ocean waters along the west coast of South America. El Niño is the **warming** of Pacific waters on a periodic basis.

- **Impacts**

- ★ Variation in monsoon rain may cause floods and droughts.
- ★ Fisheries boom due to phytoplankton growth.



## 2. Dugong (Sea Cow)

### Prelims Perspective: What needs to be learned?

- Habitat and Protection Status
- Conservation Efforts

### What needs to be known?

- **Dugong (Sea Cow)**
  - ➔ **Distribution and Habitat in India:** Gulf of Mannar, Gulf of Kutch, Palk Bay, and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
  - ➔ **Protection Status**
    - ★ IUCN Red List status: Vulnerable
    - ★ Wild (Life) Protection Act, 1972: Schedule I
    - ★ CITES: Appendix I
  - ➔ **Threats**
    - ★ Habitat degradation (especially of seagrass beds)
    - ★ Boat strikes
    - ★ Entanglement in fishing nets
    - ★ Pollution (oil spills, plastics)
    - ★ Climate change and rising sea levels
    - ★ Illegal hunting (though now rare in India)
- **India's Effort:**
  - ★ Dugong Conservation Reserve: India's first in Gulf of Mannar, Tamil Nadu (2022)
  - ★ Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)
  - ★ Recovery Programme for Dugongs under National Biodiversity Action Plan
  - ★ Community participation through awareness and eco-development programs
- **International Efforts:** Part of UNEP's Dugong Conservation Programme

### 3. Disqualification of a Member of the Legislative Assembly

#### Prelims Perspective: What needs to be learned?

- Constitutional Provision
- Representation of the People Act, 1951
- Tenth Schedule

#### What needs to be known?

- **Disqualification of a Member of the Legislative Assembly**

→ **Article 191:** Grounds for disqualification from being a Member of a State Legislative Assembly (MLA) or Council (MLC):

- ★ Office of profit
- ★ Unsound mind
- ★ Undischarged insolvent.
- ★ Loses Indian citizenship or gives up citizenship.
- ★ A person is disqualified by or under any law made by Parliament.
- ★ Disqualification under the Tenth Schedule

→ **Representation of the People Act(RPA), 1951:**

- ★ A legislator convicted under the Prevention of Corruption Act , 1988, should be disqualified for six years.
- ★ The person must not have been found guilty of certain election offences or corrupt practices in the elections or fail to explain election expenses on time.
- ★ For promoting enmity between different groups or for the offence of bribery or for preaching and practising social crimes
- ★ Not be a director in a corporation in which the government has at least 25% share or any interest in government contracts.

→ **Tenth Schedule (Anti-Defection Law) - Introduced by 52nd Amendment**

- ★ Giving up membership of the political party.
- ★ Voting or abstaining contrary to party direction without permission.
- ★ An independently elected MLA joining a party after election.

- **Deciding Authority**

- For Article 191, the Governor decides in consultation with the ECI.
- For Tenth Schedule cases, the Speaker of the House makes the decision..

- **Associated Case: Lily Thomas v. Union of India (2013)** which struck down Section 8(4) of RPA, making disqualification immediate upon conviction.

## 4. Government e-Marketplace (GeM)

### Prelims Perspective: What needs to be learned?

- Its features and relevance?

### What needs to be known?

- **Government e-Marketplace (GeM)**

- ➔ **Launch:** GeM, launched in 2016 by the Ministry of commerce serves as a national public procurement portal for central and state government entities.
- ➔ **Aim:** GeM aims to enhance efficiency, transparency, and speed in public procurement while minimizing corruption through digital processes. It supports economies of scale, better price discovery, and inclusivity for MSMEs and startups.
- ➔ **Features:** E-bidding, reverse auctions, and demand aggregation to ensure competitive pricing.
- ➔ **Relevance:** Empowers MSMEs, startups, SHGs, women entrepreneurs, and tribal artisans.