



DATE: 25 JUNE 2026

1 Flash Flood (Source: The Hindu)

A flash flood is a sudden, rapid flooding event that occurs within minutes to a few hours.

Cause

- Cloudburst or intense localised rainfall.
- Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs) in the Himalayan regions.
- Dam or embankment failure.
- Urbanisation leading to impervious surfaces and blocked drainage.
- Deforestation and slope destabilisation in hill areas.

Areas Generally Affecting

- Hilly Terrain: Flash floods in the Himalayas (Uttarakhand) and Afghanistan.
- Urbanised Region: Flash flood in an urban region like Chennai.
- Arid and Semi-Arid: Rajasthan dry river beds



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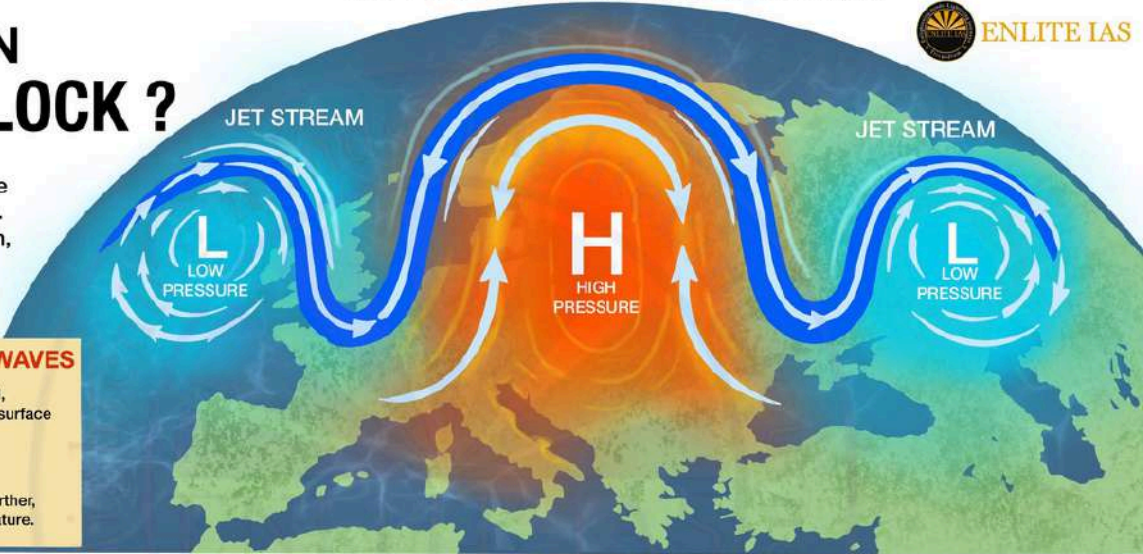
2 Index of Services Production (ISP) (Source: The Hindu)

The Index of Service Production is a proposed monthly indicator for measuring output in India's services sector, similar to the Index of Industrial Production.

- **Proposed by:** It is proposed by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)
- **Developing Agency:** National Statistical Office (NSO) under MoSPI
- **Base Year:** 2024-25
- **Coverage**
 - It will track key service segments, including trade, transport, banking, insurance, hospitality, real estate, and professional services.
 - It also examines data availability, coverage, and appropriate price deflators in line with international best practices.
 - It proposes to exclude services provided by the informal sector due to the paucity of data from the data sources under consideration.
 - It also proposes a temporary exclusion of the health and education sector, which accounts for 10% of the services GVA, till results of the annual survey of incorporated service sector enterprises (ASISSE) become available.

3 Omega Block (Source: The Indian Express)

THE OMEGA SHAPE IN THE JET STREAM



WHAT IS AN OMEGA BLOCK ?

An Omega Block is a large weather pattern shaped like the Greek letter (Omega). It traps hot air over a region, leading to prolonged heatwaves and dry conditions.

WHY IT CAUSES HEATWAVES

- High pressure acts like a lid, trapping warm air near the surface.
- Sinking air prevents cloud formation and rainfall.
- The trapped air heats up further, leading to extreme temperature.

HOW IT WORKS

- Normally, the jet stream flows from west to east, moving weather systems along.
- Sometimes, the jet stream becomes wavy and develops large bends.
- A high pressure area builds in the middle, rising over the region.
- This blocks the usual flow, trapping warm air beneath it.
- The pattern can persist for days or weeks, intensifying the heat.

IMPACT OF AN OMEGA BLOCK

- EXTREME HEAT**
Temperatures soar and can break records.
- DRY CONDITIONS**
Lack of rain leads to drought, wildfires, and water stress.
- HEALTH RISKS**
Heat exhaustion, heatstroke and higher risk for vulnerable people.
- IMPACTS ON DAILY LIFE**
Disrupted transport, school closures, strain on power and health systems.

WHY IT'S HAPPENING MORE OFTEN?
Climate change is altering jet stream patterns, making persistent Omega Blocks - and severe heatwaves- more likely.

EXAMPLE : EUROPE 2025
A powerful Omega Block over Europe has led to record-breaking heat, death, power cuts, school closures and major disruption.