



DATE: 20 SEPTEMBER 2026

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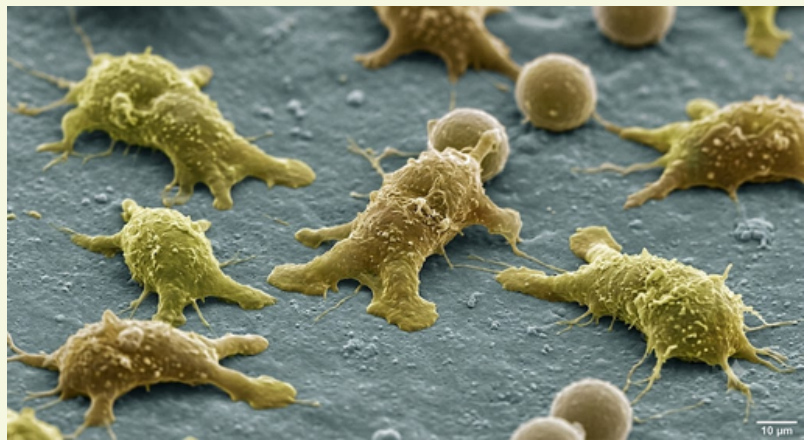
Paris Agreement (Source: The Hindu)

- **Adoption:**
 - Signed in December 2015 during COP21 in Paris by 196 parties.
 - Aims: To combat climate change and transition to a low-carbon future.
- **Goals:**
 - Temperature Target: Limit global warming to well below 2°C; aim for 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.
- **Key Focus Areas :**
 - Adaptation: Build resilience to climate impacts.
 - Mitigation: Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
 - Finance: Mobilize resources for developing nations.
- **Features:**
 - **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs):** Countries set and update their emission reduction targets every five years.
 - **Global Stocktake:** Reviews collective progress every five years.
 - **Transparency Framework:** Ensures accurate reporting of emissions and actions.
 - **Climate Finance:** Developed nations pledged \$100 billion annually to support developing countries until 2025.

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2 Brain-Eating Amoeba (Naegleria) (Source: The Hindu)

- It is a free-living amoeba (a single-celled living organism)
- It was first discovered in Australia (1965).
- It is commonly found in warm freshwater bodies (hot springs, rivers and lakes).
- It enters the human body through the nose.
- The infection caused by this amoeba is PAM (Primary Amebic Meningoencephalitis), which destroys brain tissues.
- It has a very high mortality rate.
- No vaccine is available, but PAM can be treated with proper drug combinations.





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3 El Niño (Source: The Hindu)

El Niño (meaning “the little boy” in Spanish) is a climate pattern that describes the unusual warming of surface waters in the eastern Pacific Ocean, which occurs irregularly in 2 - 7 years

Formation

- Trade winds weaken or reverse, reducing westward push of warm water.
- Warm water shifts eastward toward the Americas.
- Upwelling of cold, nutrient-rich water off South America weakens.
- Walker circulation collapses/weakens, altering global weather patterns.

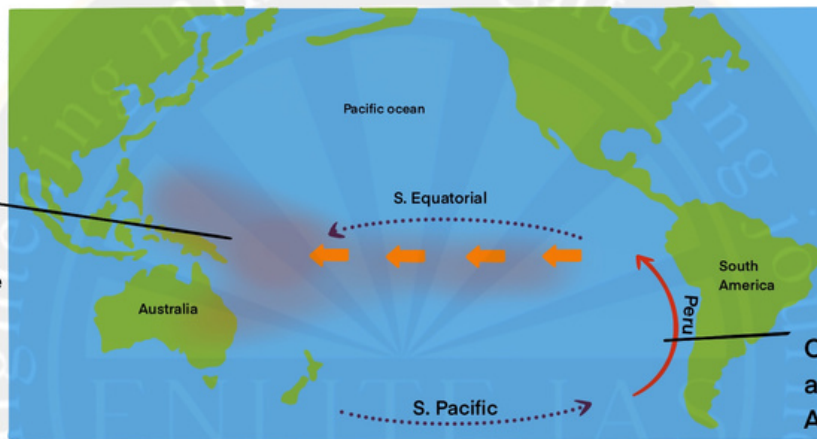
Impacts

- El Niño weakens southwest monsoon result in below-normal monsoon rainfall and it also the onset of the southwest monsoon may be delayed.
 - Uneven distribution of rainfall and cause drought like situation.
- Poor monsoons fail to adequately replenish major reservoirs and underground aquifers, causing acute water stress for irrigation and drinking in the subsequent months.
- Deficient rainfall severely impacts Kharif (summer-sown) crops like rice, pulses, and sugarcane, leading to delayed sowing and lower crop yields.
- Lower agricultural output drives food inflation, reduces rural income and consumer demand, and strains government fiscal management through drought-relief spending.

THE EL NINO PHENOMENON

NORMAL YEAR

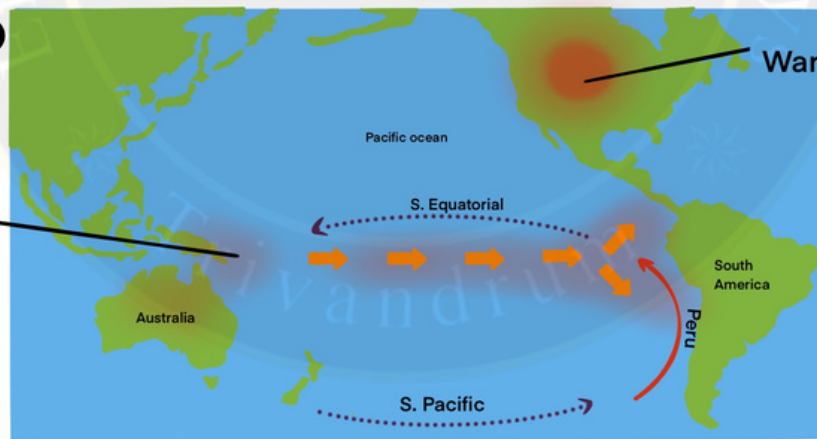
Equatorial winds gather warm water pool toward the west



Cold water along South American coast

EL NINO YEAR

Easterly winds weaken warm water to move eastward.



Warmer winter