



El Nino to stay till next Feb, 2027 monsoon too may hit

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The ongoing El Nino event in the central Pacific Ocean that has already resulted in a seriously deficient start to the southwest monsoon season for India, is not going away anytime soon, and is expected to stay put well into February 2027.

This longer 'shelf-life' of El Nino is not only expected to impact fisheries and the state of Bay of Bengal and the Arabian sea but could also mean news that none might want to hear at present – a serious possibility of negative impact on the 2027 Indian monsoon season.

The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (Incois), in its first-ever El Nino bulletin on Monday, has said that El Nino was expected to remain dominant "from June 2026 through February 2027." The probability of this happening, Incois said, was between

70–90 per cent, while the El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) conditions returning to a neutral phase was 10-30 per cent.

The chances of formation of La Nina conditions, considered a 'friend' of the Indian monsoon, for now stood at negligible — less than 3 per cent. Incois called the formation of La Nina "highly unlikely".

"El Nino extending into the summer is never good news for the monsoon to follow," a meteorology expert told Deccan Chronicle. "Things don't change quickly in the ocean and the weather systems. While nothing can be said with any degree of certainty, the likelihood of the 2027 monsoon season also being hit cannot be ruled out. This will be a very likely outcome of what is happening now," the weather scientist said.

— Full report in
deccanchronicle.com

WARM NEW YEAR

- El Nino conditions to stay till February 2027, Hyderabad-based Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (Incois) says.
- Likely to impact next year's monsoon too.
- Bay of Bengal, Arabian Sea to be warmer, relatively calm conditions in Arabian Sea, high wind-sea conditions in the Bay.
- Prolonged warming may alter distribution of commercially important fish species.
- Coral reef ecosystems around Lakshadweep, Gulf of Mannar, and Andaman & Nicobar Islands likely to come under stress
- Warmer ocean conditions may induce extreme weather events, coastal regions may experience localized erosion, flooding, and storm surge impacts
- Catch of oil Sardine and Mackerel in the Bay likely to fall.