

INCOIS Releases First Specialized El Niño Bulletin Highlighting Potential Impacts on Maritime Sectors

Hyderabad, 22 June 2026: The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) has initiated the release of Specialized El Niño Bulletins to highlight the possible impacts of the ongoing El Niño event on various maritime sectors. The first specialized bulletin was released by Shri Konda Vishweshwar Reddy Garu, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Chevella Constituency, on 22 June 2026 during an event held at INCOIS. The bulletin confirms that the El Niño event continues to develop and is expected to peak during the winter season (November 2026 to January 2027). Consequently, sea surface temperatures in the Indian Ocean are likely to remain above normal until April–May 2027. According to the bulletin, the marine ecosystem of the northern Indian Ocean, including both the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal, is expected to experience thermal stress in the coming months, particularly during March–May 2027. This may result in increased coral reef bleaching, more frequent marine heatwave events, and a reduction in fish catch, especially of sardine and mackerel species. The decline in fish catch may occur due to the migration of fish stocks to more suitable habitats or reduced recruitment under altered environmental conditions.



Release of Specialized El Nino Bulletin by Shri. Konda Vishweshwar Reddy Garu, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Chevella Constituency.

In addition, changes in marine environmental conditions associated with the developing El Niño may affect fish growth, preventing them from attaining their desired sizes. The bulletin further indicates that sea conditions in the Bay of Bengal are likely to remain rough during the monsoon season, increasing the likelihood of coastal erosion and flooding along India's east coast. Conversely, sea conditions in the Arabian Sea and along the west coast are expected to be calmer than usual, potentially extending operational

windows for various marine activities. Coastal erosion and inundation risks are also likely to be lower along the west coast during the ongoing monsoon season. INCOIS advises all maritime operators, fisheries stakeholders, coastal managers, and other ocean-dependent sectors to closely follow the alerts, warnings, and advisories issued by INCOIS from time to time and take appropriate precautionary measures. The next Specialized El Niño Bulletin is scheduled to be released during the second week of July 2026.

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For further information, please contact: Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India Hyderabad, India.