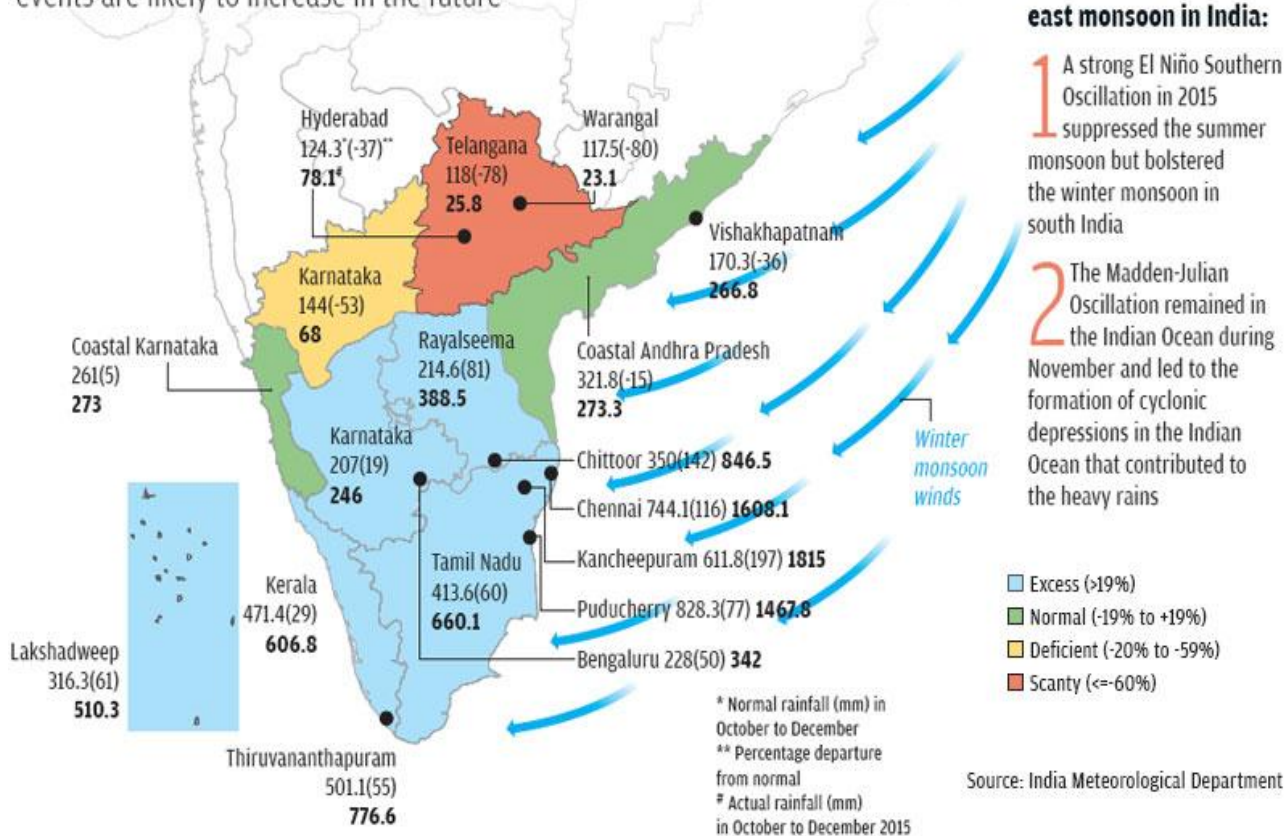


Carpe Diem

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Winds of change

Experts warn that the magnitude and frequency of extreme rain events are likely to increase in the future



Two global factors that exacerbated the north-east monsoon in India:

1 A strong El Niño Southern Oscillation in 2015 suppressed the summer monsoon but bolstered the winter monsoon in south India

2 The Madden-Julian Oscillation remained in the Indian Ocean during November and led to the formation of cyclonic depressions in the Indian Ocean that contributed to the heavy rains



ISSUES AND ANALYSIS



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Editorials from- The Hindu, The Indian Express, Live Mint

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The complexity of human behaviour and systemic market factors can trip the finest economists, even Nobel laureates. Like Robert Thaler on demonetisation.

Live mint-

➤ **The challenge of managing currency**

Excessive exchange rate volatility could affect investment and growth possibilities in tradable sectors

National

- The Hindu-
Sexual intercourse with minor wife is rape, says SC
A girl child below 18 can't be treated as a commodity. Seen as a trigger to declare child marriages void. Says a child remains a child even if she is married.
- Indian Express Explained-
Right to die, when living isn't possible: Long-debated questions of law, ethics on passive euthanasia
Supreme Court on Wednesday reserved its verdict on allowing a 'Living Will' for passive euthanasia.
- The Hindu-
Centre cited tradition, wanted Section 375 to stay
NDA government adopted affidavit filed by UPA dispensation, which said, 'Marriage of minors is an old custom in India, practised by all social groups'
- Indian Express Explained-
Rammanohar Lohia: In his times and in ours
Buried in today's loud anti-Congressism and the tirade against 'Lutyens' elite' are echoes of Lohia, even though the essential secular, ethical underpinning of his ideas are nowhere in evidence.

ECONOMY

- The Hindu-
Council acts to ease cascading tax impact on petroproducts
It could reduce India's logistical costs for gas import
- Indian Express-
Skill development: CCEA approves two World Bank-backed schemes
Skills Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP) is a Rs 4,455-crore centrally sponsored scheme, including Rs 3,300 crore loan support from World Bank.
- The Hindu-
Cabinet nod for natural gas cargo-swap deal with Japan
It could reduce India's logistical costs for gas import
- Live mint-
Women employment rate in India sees dramatic drop in last 20 years
The drop in female employment rate has been steeper in rural India—women made up half of the labour force in 1993-94 but the number dropped to less than 36% in 2011-12
- The Hindu-
PM's advisory council acknowledges slowdown
Chairman Bibek Debroy, however, declines to share reasons

Science and Tech.; Environment

- Indian Express-
No clarity yet on NE monsoon
International weather models suggest below-normal rains
- Indian Express Explained-
Underweight and obese children: Alarm bells ring at both ends in India, Lancet study raises concern
The prevalence of mild to severe underweight under-20s in India is 22.7% among girls and 30.7% among boys.

Multimedia-Videos

- Rajya Sabha TV-
The Big Picture - Pesticides Tragedy: Hazards of Chemical farming



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