

The Monsoon and Its Importance

Chapter 3: Climates of India · Topic 2

Key Concept

The southwest monsoon, arriving around June, brings most of India's annual rainfall, moving from the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal towards the mainland.

The monsoon is essential for agriculture, as most Indian farmers depend on monsoon rains to grow crops like rice, especially in areas without reliable irrigation.

A good monsoon season supports strong agricultural output, which affects food prices, farmer incomes, and overall economic growth in India.

However, monsoons can also be unpredictable, and both too little rain (drought) or too much rain (floods) can cause serious problems for farmers and communities.

Quick Revision Notes

- The southwest monsoon arrives around June.
- It brings most of India's annual rainfall.
- It moves from the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal.
- Most farmers depend on monsoon rains for crops.
- Rice farming especially depends on monsoon rain.
- A good monsoon supports agriculture and the economy.
- Poor monsoons can cause droughts.
- Excess monsoon rain can cause floods.

Practice Questions

- 1 Research when the monsoon arrives in your region.
- 2 Discuss how monsoon rain affects farming near you.
- 3 Explain the difference between drought and flood.
- 4 Research a year when India had a poor monsoon.
- 5 Discuss why monsoon prediction is important.
- 6 Explain the connection between monsoon and India's economy.