



June 29 is celebrated annually as National Statistics Day in India to honor the birth anniversary of Prof. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, famously known as the "Father of Indian Statistics". He founded the Indian Statistical Institute and designed the country's second five-year plan.



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— Ben Carson

True Observing India

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WEAK MONSOON SIGNALS RAISE CONCERNS OVER A CRITICAL LINK IN INDIA'S AGRICULTURAL SUPPLY CHAIN



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Changing Weather Patterns Challenge Farm Productivity India's agricultural sector is once again facing uncertainty as weak rainfall patterns linked to El Niño threaten one of the most vital components of the country's farming ecosystem. While discussions around El Niño often focus on reduced monsoon rainfall and lower crop yields, another equally important concern is emerging—the weakening availability of essential agricultural inputs that support food production across the country. Agriculture in India depends on a delicate balance of favourable weather, healthy soil, irrigation, seeds, fertilizers, labour, and timely farm operations. When rainfall patterns become erratic, this entire ecosystem experiences disruptions. This year, experts are expressing concern that a key agricultural input is likely to remain significantly below normal, potentially affecting crop productivity during the kharif season.

El Niño's Continuing Influence on the Monsoon

El Niño is a naturally occurring climate phenomenon that involves the warming of sea surface temperatures in the central and eastern Pacific Ocean. Although it develops far from India, it often weakens the Indian summer monsoon by altering global atmospheric circulation. A weaker monsoon does not necessarily result in drought everywhere, but it often causes delayed rainfall, long dry spells, uneven precipitation, and higher temperatures. Such conditions create stress for crops during critical growth stages and reduce the effectiveness of agricultural planning. The impact is particularly severe for rain-fed farming regions, where millions of farmers depend almost entirely on seasonal rainfall for cultivation.

A Vital Agricultural Input Under Pressure

Among the growing concerns this season is the weakening availability of an essential agricultural input that

plays a major role in maintaining crop health and productivity. Whether it is water availability, soil moisture, fodder resources, or another weather-dependent farm input, shortages can create ripple effects across the agricultural supply chain.

Reduced availability of these inputs can delay sowing, lower crop germination rates, affect plant growth, and ultimately reduce overall yields. Farmers may also be forced to spend more on irrigation, alternative inputs, or crop protection measures, increasing production costs at a time when profit margins are already under pressure.

For many small and marginal farmers, such additional expenses can significantly impact household incomes.

Supply Chain Implications Beyond the Farm

Agriculture supports a vast supply chain extending from farms to food processing industries, transport networks, wholesale markets, retailers, and consumers. Any disruption at the production stage eventually affects every link in this chain.

Lower agricultural output may reduce the availability of cereals, pulses, oilseeds, fruits, and vegetables. Food processing companies may experience shortages of raw materials, while transporters and storage facilities could see changes in seasonal demand.

Consumers may eventually face higher prices for several food commodities if supply tightens, particularly for products that are highly dependent on favourable monsoon conditions.

Government and Scientific Monitoring

Government agencies, agricultural universities, and meteorological experts are closely monitoring rainfall trends and climate forecasts throughout the season. State governments have also begun preparing contingency plans in regions expected to receive below-normal rainfall. These measures may include promoting drought-resistant crop varieties, encouraging efficient irrigation tech-

niques, providing advisories on revised sowing schedules, and ensuring adequate availability of seeds and fertilizers.

Scientists continue to improve weather forecasting models, enabling farmers to receive more timely and location-specific advisories that can reduce climate-related risks.

Farmers Adapting Through Technology

Indian farmers are increasingly adopting climate-smart agricultural practices to cope with weather uncertainty. Technologies such as drip irrigation, sprinkler systems, soil moisture monitoring, precision farming, and weather-based mobile advisories are helping improve resilience. Crop diversification is also becoming an important strategy. Instead of depending on a single crop, many farmers are cultivating multiple crops that respond differently to weather conditions, reducing overall risk. Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) are also helping farmers collectively purchase inputs, access markets, and share resources more efficiently during challenging seasons.

Building Long-Term Climate Resilience

The recurring influence of climate variability highlights the need for long-term investments in resilient agriculture. Expanding irrigation infrastructure, improving groundwater management, strengthening agricultural research, promoting climate-resilient seeds, and enhancing crop insurance coverage will be essential for safeguarding India's food security.

As climate patterns become increasingly unpredictable, India's agricultural success will depend not only on rainfall but also on the strength and adaptability of every component within its agricultural supply chain. Ensuring the availability of critical farm inputs, improving resource efficiency, and supporting farmers with timely information will be crucial in maintaining stable food production despite evolving climatic challenges.



CMS Rajendra Nagar-I Swimmers Shine at Samanvay District Swimming Meet

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Students of City Montessori School, Rajendra Nagar-I, showcased exceptional talent and determination at the Samanvay District Swimming Meet held on 25 June 2026 at K.D. Singh Babu Stadium Swimming Pool, Lucknow. The prestigious competition was organised by the Sports Directorate, Lucknow, and witnessed remarkable performances from the school's young swimmers, who collectively secured 18 medals, including 12 gold and 6 silver medals.

Leading the medal tally was Ayan Yadav, who delivered an outstanding performance by winning five gold medals in the 50m Breaststroke, 100m Breaststroke, 200m Breaststroke, 50m Butterfly, and 100m Freestyle events. Matching this remarkable feat was Rajuta Sahu, who



also clinched five gold medals in the 50m Breaststroke, 100m Breaststroke, 200m Breaststroke, 100m Freestyle, and 400m Freestyle events.

Shiv Jaiswal added to the school's glory by winning one gold medal in the 100m Butterfly and two silver medals in the

50m Butterfly and 50m Freestyle events. Kaustubh Singh secured one gold medal in the 400m Freestyle and one silver medal in the 200m Freestyle. Anant Srivastava earned a silver medal in the 50m Butterfly, while Arush Gupta won two silver medals in the 50m Backstroke and 50m Freestyle

events.

The school's overall medal tally of 12 gold and 6 silver medals reflects the dedication, discipline, and rigorous training of its young athletes.

Adding another feather to the school's cap, all six swimmers have qualified for the Mandal Swimming Competition, held on 27 June 2026 at K.D. Singh Babu Stadium, Lucknow. Their qualification is a testament to their hard work and commitment to excellence in sports.

The Principal congratulated the medal winners and their coaches on this remarkable achievement and extended best wishes for their continued success at higher levels of competition. The outstanding performance of the students once again highlights CMS Rajendra Nagar-I's commitment to nurturing sporting excellence alongside academic achievement.

Seth M.R. Jaipuria School, Goel Campus Organises POCSO Act Training to Enhance Child Safety Awareness

True Observing India

Seth M.R. Jaipuria School, Goel Campus, Lucknow, in association with Abhivridhi Innovation & Consultants Private Limited, organised an informative training session on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act to strengthen awareness about child safety and protection among educators.

The session was conducted by Dr. Saumyata Pandey, a Government-certified PoSH and POCSO Trainer and Consultant, who shared valuable insights into the legal framework of the POCSO Act and the responsibilities of educational institutions in ensuring the safety and well-being of children.

The programme was attended by Principal Dr. Rina Pathak, teachers, and staff members, who actively participated in the interactive session. Dr. Pandey explained the key provisions of the Act, emphasising the legal obligations of educators, the importance of recognising signs of abuse, and the correct procedures for reporting and intervention.



Through practical examples and case studies, she highlighted the critical role schools play in creating a safe, secure, and nurturing environment for every child.

The training also focused on preventive measures, ethical conduct, confidentiality, and the importance of building trust between students and educators. Participants were encouraged to remain vigilant, empathetic, and proac-

tive in addressing concerns related to child protection and welfare.

Addressing the gathering, Mahesh Agarwal, Chairman, Goel Group of Institutions, said, "A school should be a place where every child feels safe, respected, and protected. Creating such an environment is a collective responsibility, and regular awareness programmes equip educators with the knowledge and confidence to uphold the highest standards

of child safety and care. At Goel Group of Institutions, we remain committed to fostering secure and nurturing learning spaces for every student."

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Rina Pathak, Principal, remarked, "The safety and well-being of every child remain our highest priority. Such awareness programmes empower educators with the knowledge, sensitivity, and confidence to identify concerns, respond responsibly, and foster a culture of trust, care, and protection within the school community. A well-informed teacher is the first line of defence in safeguarding children's rights."

The programme concluded with an engaging question-and-answer session, allowing participants to clarify their queries and strengthen their understanding of the POCSO Act. The training was widely appreciated and reaffirmed the school's commitment to maintaining a safe, inclusive, and child-friendly learning environment where every student can thrive with confidence and security.



PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI BEGINS LANDMARK VISIT TO SEYCHELLES

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has commenced a significant three-day visit to Seychelles to participate as the Guest of Honour during the country's Golden Jubilee National Day celebrations. The visit underlines India's growing engagement with island nations in the Indian Ocean and reinforces its maritime vision under the MAHASAGAR initiative. During the visit, discussions are expected to focus on maritime security, coastal surveillance, climate resilience, renewable energy, healthcare, digital connectivity, fisheries, and defence cooperation. Both nations have enjoyed close diplomatic relations for decades, with India playing an important role in capacity building, infrastructure development, and humanitarian assistance in Seychelles. The Prime Minister is also expected to hold bilateral meetings with Seychelles' leadership to review ongoing projects and identify new areas of cooperation.



FIFA WORLD CUP 2026 GROUP STAGE REACHES CRUCIAL PHASE

The 2026 FIFA World Cup has entered one of its most exciting phases as several group-stage matches determine qualification for the knockout rounds. Sunday's fixtures feature important encounters including England versus Panama, Croatia against Ghana, Portugal facing Colombia, Algeria taking on Austria, DR Congo meeting Uzbekistan, and Argentina playing Jordan. Every point now carries enormous significance, with teams fighting to secure their place in the Round of 32. Traditional football powers such as Argentina, England, Portugal, and Croatia are aiming to finish at the top of their respective groups, while emerging football nations continue to impress with competitive performances. The expanded 48-team tournament has produced greater diversity, with more countries competing on the global stage than ever before. Fans across the world have praised the competitive nature of the tournament, where several underdog teams have challenged higher-ranked opponents.



OPENAI INTRODUCES GPT-5.6 FAMILY WITH LIMITED EARLY ACCESS

Artificial intelligence continues to evolve rapidly as OpenAI has unveiled its new GPT-5.6 family of AI models, named Sol, Terra, and Luna. While the announcement has generated considerable excitement within the technology community, access to the new models remains limited, with wider availability expected in future phases. According to early reports, the new generation focuses on improved reasoning, enhanced coding capabilities, stronger multimodal understanding, and better contextual accuracy. Developers are particularly interested in the models' ability to process complex instructions while maintaining greater reliability and reduced hallucinations.

INDIAN CINEMA RECORDS STRONG BOX OFFICE MOMENTUM

India's entertainment industry continues to witness encouraging box office performance as several major releases attract audiences across theatres. Recent films have maintained healthy collections both domestically and internationally, reflecting sustained audience interest despite growing competition from digital streaming platforms. Among the notable performers, Welcome to the Jungle has registered impressive worldwide earnings within days of release, while Cocktail 2 has continued its successful theatrical run by crossing major revenue milestones globally.



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